

GOKULAM

The monthly magazine for children

FEBRUARY 2001

Rs.6/-



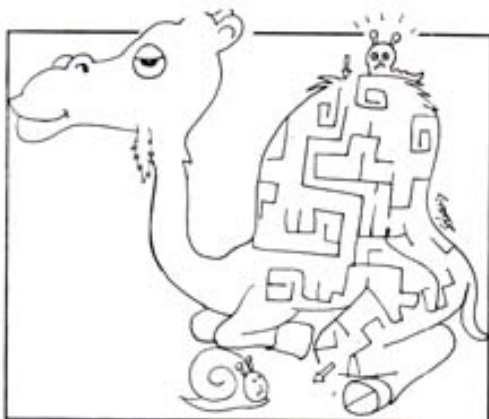
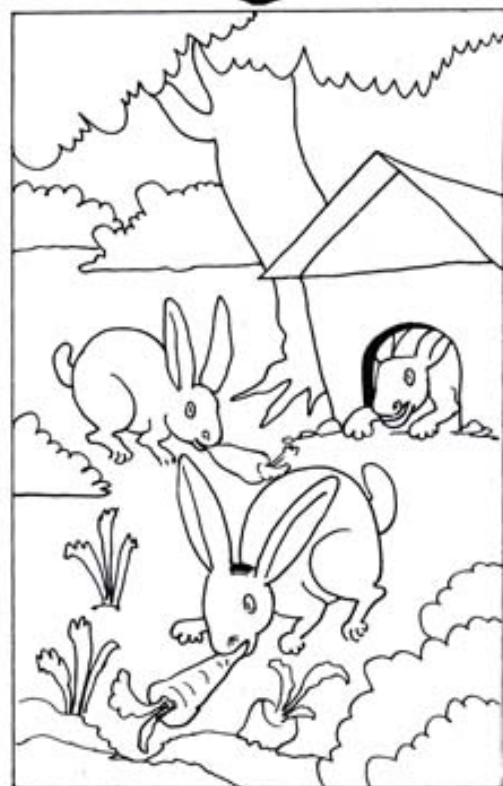
KID'S MOVIE;
ADULTS LOVE IT!



**FIND THE
PAIR AND
THE ODD ONE**

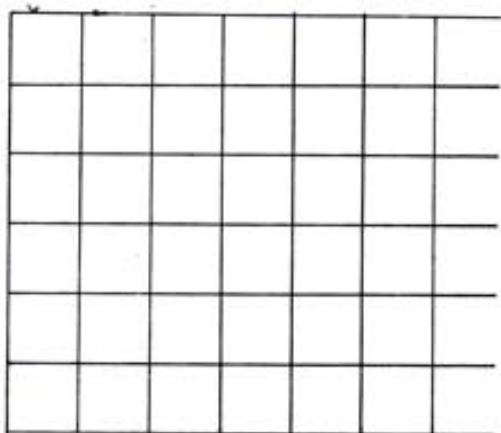
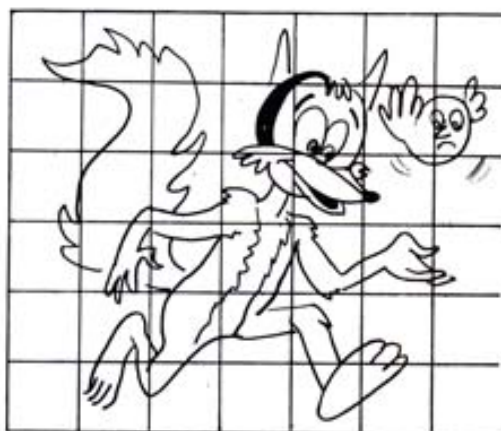
Ans : A pair : Owls, Odd one : Rat

COLOUR THIS HOMELY SCENE.



**HELP BABY SNAIL ABOVE,
TO REACH ITS MOTHER.**

**DRAW THE PICTURE
ABOVE NEATLY WITH
THE HELP OF THE
SQUARES BELOW.**



IN GOKULAM
THIS MONTH

GOKULAM

February '01

Vol. XIII, No.8

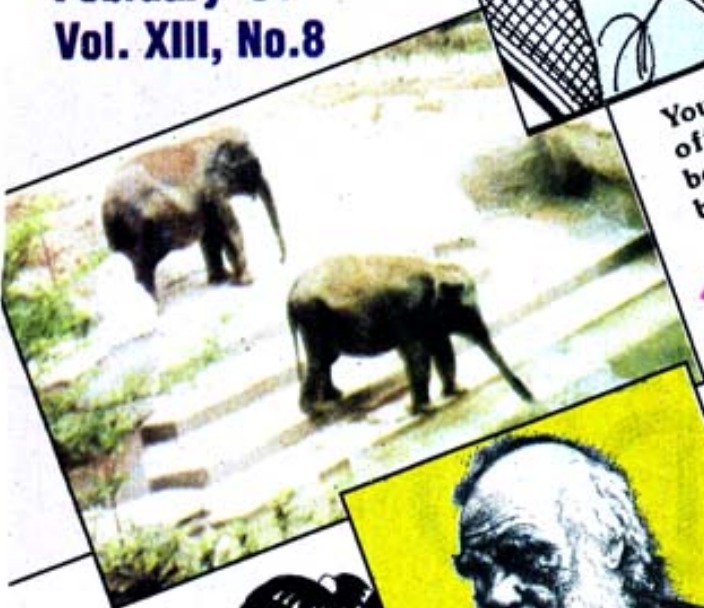


You must first sell
off this pillar
before selling the
bunglow.

32

40 No other zoo in
the world enjoys
this popularity.

46 The boys
entered the
scientists
room to show him
their handiwork.



4 A folded
piece of
tracing
paper
with
cotton.

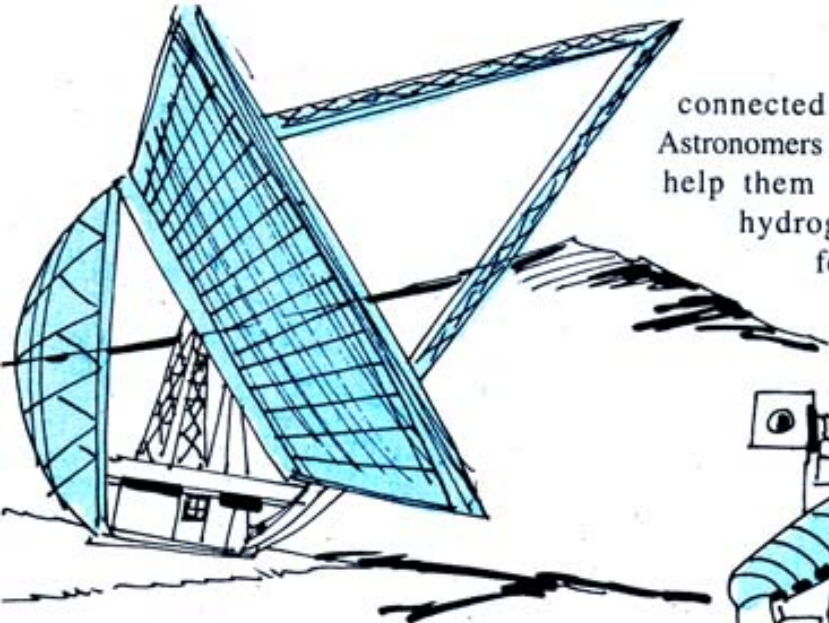
Stop!
Laugh!
Proceed!

61



Of all created things the loveliest,
And most divine are children.

—William Canton



connected to each other. Astronomers believe that it will help them study the faint hydrogen emissions formed soon after the Big Bang



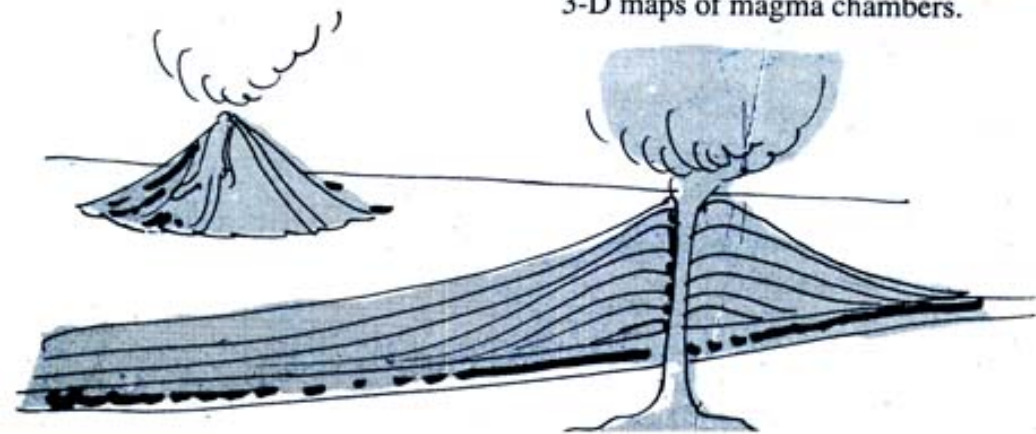
LARGEST RADIO TELESCOPE

Scientists from ten nations will design and build a radio telescope 100 times as large as today's largest. It will consist of at least ten individual telescopes in different places but

and answer fundamental questions about the universe.

3-D MAPS OF EARTH'S CORE

American researchers have used sonar computers and graphic imaging systems to construct never before seen 3-D maps of magma chambers.

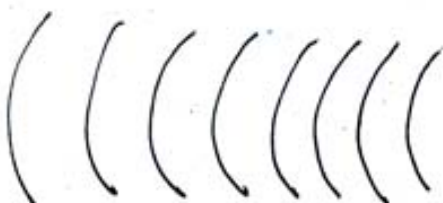


They patched up these images to create a two-hour long movie that can throw light on the various geological mysteries.

The technique used is very expensive.

FIRST RECORD STAY IN SPACE

The first cosmonauts to stay in space



the second day of their moon landing, "Apollo 15" astronauts David Scott and James Irwin went for the first-ever drive on the Moon in their lunar roving vehicle called, "moon buggy".

BALLOON FIESTA

A total of 132 balloons took off within 55 minutes of each other in Bristol. This record was set on August 12, 2000 at the International balloon fiesta.

REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES

France was the first country to introduce motor vehicle registration plates. The first plate was registered on August 14, 1893.

SCREAMERS, ALL!

A Polish woman, Ms. Dagmara Stanek out-screamed 300 rivals from four countries - Poland, America, Austria and the Czech republic. At Europe's only vocal competition held in August 2000, television showed Ms. Stanek emitting a sustained scream rated at 126.1 decibels.

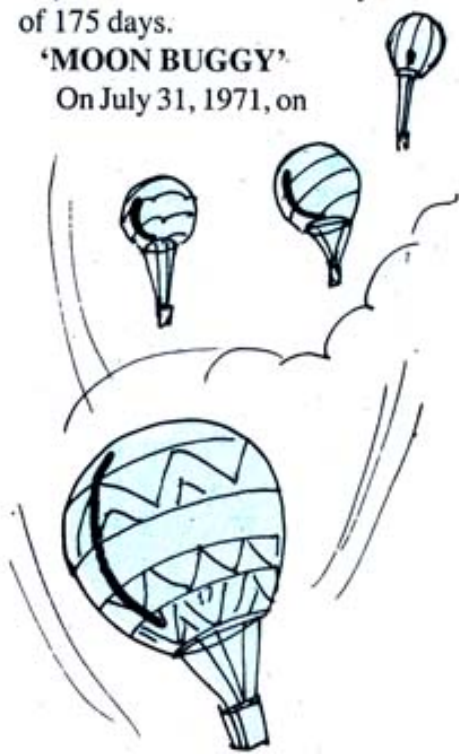
This volume is comparable to the sound produced by a pneumatic hammer. The best male screamer defended his previous year's title. He produced a 125.3 decibel wail. Suresh K. Anjum, Calcutta



for a record number of days were Vladimir Lyako and Valery Ryumin. They returned to earth aboard Soyuz-34 after a record stay of 175 days.

'MOON BUGGY'

On July 31, 1971, on





Dubey and Daley were very sad. Mrs. Erina their class teacher had made fun of them. The whole school laughed.

It happened like this : During the morning assembly it was customary for students to go up the stage after prayer and to talk about a news item which

couldn't say anything for she hadn't read the morning newspaper. She didn't have the time for she woke up rather late and by the time she was ready for breakfast and the morning paper, her father had left for office taking the paper with him.

MYSTERY OF THE missing Diamond

had appeared in the morning papers and which they considered important.

It was the turn of Dubey today and she reluctantly went up the stage. She

While she fidgeted Mrs. Erina cried out "Shame! Shame!" Dubey ran down the dais tears welling in her eyes, while everybody laughed.

Daley had to face the assembly next and she remembered having read that a rare and costly diamond had been stolen. She mentioned this and immediately Mrs. Erina asked, "Stolen from where?"

Daley couldn't reply, for she did not have the answer. She hadn't read the news in detail. Just the headline.

The assembly roared in laughter once again. This was why Dubey and Daley were feeling very bad that evening. The friends usually walked home together for they were more or less neighbours.

"It was really very mean of her" said Daley unable to forget the incident.

They had neared the park which was on the way and Dubey said, "Let's rest here for a minute or two. We will chat about something else to forget this morning's awful episode."

So they did. The park was deserted except for a couple of squirrels

scampering about and a few birds chirping. It was too early for elders to come there for a walk or just enjoy the greenery.

But wait... Here comes a car and is being parked near the gate. TN-09 1313! Daley was curious. A tall man in a striped T-shirt, looking rather like a villain got down from the car and with a stealthy look around started walking across the park ignoring the pathway.

"Quick! let us hide" said Dubey and pulled Daley with her to disappear behind a tree. Their suspicions were confirmed.

The man walked straight on to a tree, stopped and took out a box from under his T-shirt and placed it in a small hole in the tree. He then walked on casually to the other side of the park, without a backward glance.

"It must be a secret hiding place" whispered Dubey... "Did you notice the number of the car?"

"Ofcourse" said Daley. "There cannot be a more unlucky number. 1313!"

Dubey giggled and dragged Daley along to reach the tree. They found a couple of bricks and standing on top of them, Daley was able to reach for the box.

It was opened quickly and to their surprise they found a toy puppy, made of cloth and stuffed with cotton.



"It is perhaps a symbol" said Dubey. "May be it has a secret embedded in it" said Daley. "Look! here is a zipper underneath, right in the middle of the puppy's tummy!"

"Here, let me" said Dubey, and 'ziiip!' Out came a folded piece of tracing paper along with some cotton. The red tracing paper had something hard wrapped up in it.

"I'm afraid" said Dubey.

"Me too" said Daley. "May be its the stolen diamond!"

They peeked between the crumpled folds and could see the glitter and dazzle.

Quickly they put it back zipped the puppy and ran like the wind carrying the box and the toy with them.

Surely some one would come to gather the diamond and they had to be out of their sight!

Panting they entered the first police station that they could think of and told their story in bits and pieces.

Mummy : Pinky, what are you doing?

Pinky : Swimming, mummy.

Mummy : It is going to rain. Put on your rain-coat first and then go swimming!

- Arvind Gupta, Std. X,
Thana, Mumbai.

"Did you note down the number of the car?" the inspector asked.

"There is no need to. Who can forget such an unlucky number?" said Dubey laughing. Now that she was with the inspector, there was nothing to fear!

Things moved rapidly and by the end of the day the thieves had been arrested and their car impounded.

Dubey and Daley found their picture in the morning newspaper along with their exciting experience presented in detail!

At school, after prayer it was suddenly the turn of Mrs. Erina to go on the dais and proudly proclaim to the assembly the news of the day.

"Dubey and Daley have brought credit to our school and all of us congratulate them" she said towards the end and presented each one of them a bouquet, amidst thunderous cheers. Mrs. Erina came back to the mike and said in a faltering voice, "I'm really sorry I was so harsh with both of them yesterday."

Dubey obviously moved, requested the mike to be adjusted to her height. "Madame Erina need not feel bad about her outburst, for we have learnt our lesson. After all did we not read the news about ourselves this morning with great care and interest? We shall show the same interest in other important news items also!"

There was nothing for Mrs. Erina to do, except give both the girls a pat on their back!

- Fathima Shareela, age 14, M.E.S.
Kunil School, Muttam, Kerala.



There are several trees around our house and monkeys make them their homes.

Once as I was taking a walk, a small monkey fell from a branch. This ofcourse is an unusual occurence. I ran towards the baby and took it home. We bandaged a leg which was hurt badly.

I took it back to the tree, but it's mother would not have him back in her fold. That I believe is the nature of monkeys. Once seperated there is no reunion! She tried to bite him and scared him away.

I carried the baby monkey back home. We fed him on fruits and vegetables and he grew well, except that one leg was a bit crooked. He would sit on my shoulders, play with me and sleep in the same room with me. We called him Chimpo!

Once a thief broke into our house. Chimpo was the first to notice him, though it was well past midnight. He



created such a commotion that all of us woke up. Daddy switched on the lights while mother shouted, "thief! thief!"

The thief was so frightened that he dropped the bag he was carrying and took to his heels. The bag contained items stolen from a neighbouring house also.

Daddy phoned the police and they arrived after sometime. A few days later we learnt that the thief had been caught!

All of us - our family and our neighbours - gathered around Chimpo and gave him a big treat.

CHIMPO THE HERO!

Chimpo enjoyed the attention and the tasty menu!

**- M. Neelamukhil Vannan,
Age 12, Loyola M.H.S.S.,
Chennai - 24.**



regularly.

Certain diseases affect this pacemaker. As a result, the heart beats abnormally. Sometimes it leads to death of the patient. To prevent this, an artificial pacemaker is used in place of the natural one.

An artificial pacemaker is a battery powered electronic device which stimulates the heart and makes it beat regularly. The artificial pacemaker is implanted in the chest of the patient. Each pacemaker can work upto 15 years with just one battery. Then it should be replaced with another battery.

● G. Nirmala, Kanyakumari.

? *What is a pacemaker? How does it help heart-patients?*

! It is well known that the heart beats automatically. It beats about 70 to 80 times a minute in a healthy adult.

The heart has a special tissue called 'Sino-Atrial Node' in its upper region of the right chamber. It is called 'natural pacemaker' of the heart. It generates electrical impulses regularly. These impulses are carried by special nerve fibres all over the heart. These electrical impulses make the heart beat

● B. Gokul, Jamshedpur.

? *What is*

IS



microsurgery? Is it done to restore broken or damaged nerves?

! Microsurgery is a kind of plastic surgery. The surgeon does the surgery with the use of the surgical microscope which magnifies the surgical field several times. It is done to repair nerves, arteries and veins which are damaged in a few diseases and trauma.

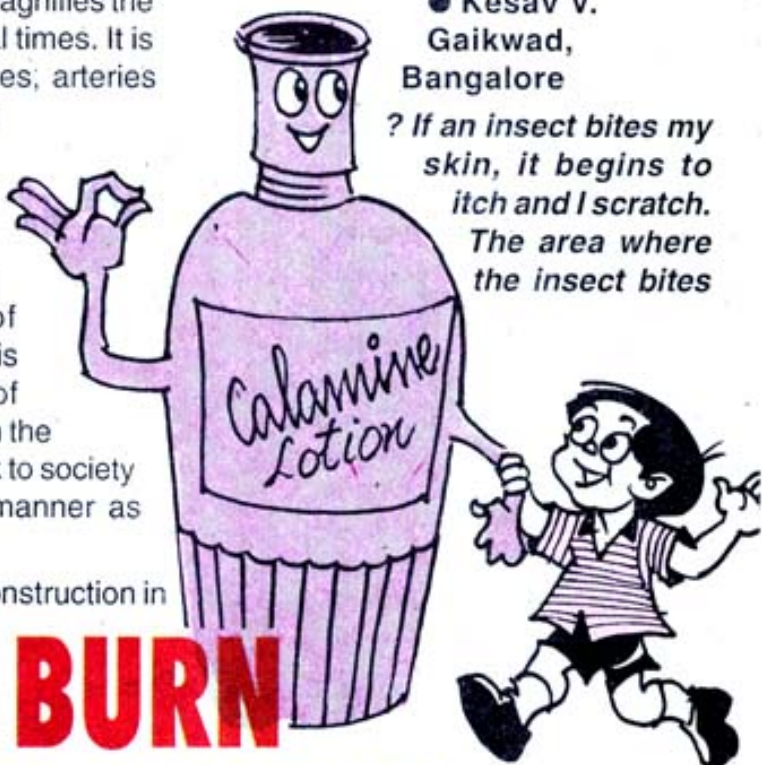
Trauma is said to be a 'disease' of young individuals. It is the responsibility of the surgeon to return the youthful patient back to society in as functional a manner as possible.

The essence of reconstruction in

toration is to that of the normal in all of its details, the best will be the functional and cosmetic result. This is made possible by microsurgery. It has opened a new era in trauma surgery.

● Kesav V.
Gaikwad,
Bangalore

? If an insect bites my skin, it begins to itch and I scratch. The area where the insect bites



HEART BURN

RELATED TO THE

HEART?

trauma care involves a clear un-

derstanding of the destruction caused by injury and a painstaking effort to restore the anatomy and function. Obviously the closest the res-

into my skin swells up. I have visited many doctors but

nothing helps. What can I do to get rid of this problem?

! You are allergic to some insect bites. Medical sciences have not yet been able to explain why certain people are allergic to certain agents and not others. According to many scientists heredity plays a role in

deciding who would be allergic and to what.

By getting an 'allergy test' done you can find out to which one you are allergic. Then it is easy to avoid such

problem related to the heart?

! Heartburn is a painful sensation in the foodpipe i.e., oesophagus. It occurs when acidity of the stomach is raised and the stomach contents surge upwards into the oesophagus. Sometimes the oesophagus undergoes intense spasms resulting in heartburn.

Smoking, alcohol abuse, frequent usage of panmasala and analgesic drugs are some of the causes for heartburn.

Heartburn is a problem of the stomach and the oesophagus and not that of the heart. The burning sensation usually begins just below the tip of the breastbone near the heart and the pain may last for several hours.

Heartburn accompanies many types of indigestion and frequently occurs after a person has

taken a hot or cold drink. People who have ulcers in the stomach and pregnant women may experience heartburn. Chronic stress or gall-bladder disease can also lead to this problem. Antacid medications and antiulcerants can relieve heartburn.

insect bites in the future. Consult your family doctor regarding this test. Meanwhile you can use antihistamine drugs and can apply calamine lotion all over the body-except the face and the scalp - to control the itch.

● **S. Manivannan, Chennai - 17**
? What is heartburn? Is this

Dr. G. Ganesan,
Rajapalayam.

Dance is a sacred art cherished and preserved in our country.

One of the many dance forms of our nation is the Bharatha-natyam which is an integral part of the great and ancient South Indian culture.

In the early days of the 20th century, it was known as Sadir, Chinamelam or Dasiattam. It had lost its purity and divinity because of selfishness and ignorance of people who made a living out of it and misused it.

In the early thirties some great exponents of bharathanatyam and connoisseurs of that art appeared on the scene and restored its dignity. From then on there was a renaissance of the art.

Sage Bharatha created the dance form and hence it is known as bharathanatyam.

The word is also an anagram from the first letters of the three words Bhava, Raga and Tala.

Some say that the name denotes banishing of distress : "Bharam tatrayati iti bharatha."

Others say that it is a dance of India or Bharath and hence the name.

THE SACRED DANCE OF SOUTH INDIA



Bharathanatyam is a combination of music, dance and drama and elevates both the performer and the rasika to sublime heights.

- Karthik Krishnan, age 14,
D.A.V.P.S., New Delhi.

BALU THE BULLY

Story :
KOUSIKAN

Illustration :
CHELLAM

Balu's mother had a visitor. Gopu, her son came with her.

My son is shy; But clever.

Clever? He looks like a moron. Will he play with me?



My god! What are you doing?

Testing the strength of your cricket bat.

Don't fool around with me, you moron!

Ouch!

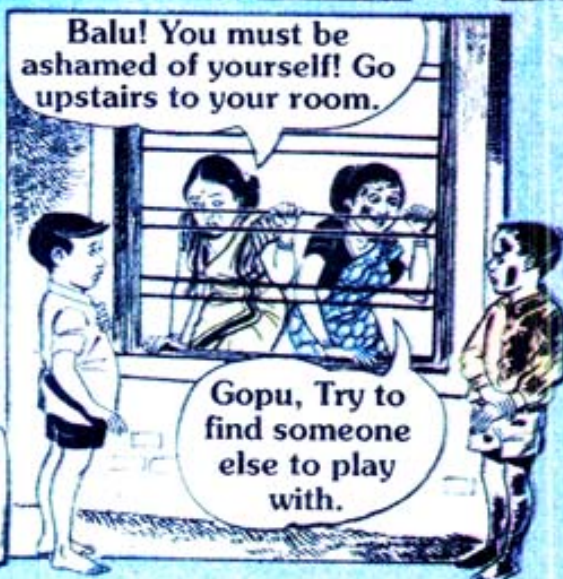
That is fit punishment for breaking my bat. Coal powder all over you!



There! I will return your compliments... Oh! He ducked!

Balu! You must be ashamed of yourself! Go upstairs to your room.

Gopu, Try to find someone else to play with.





Safely out of reach... eh...! If you have the guts come down!



The fellow seems to have some trick up his sleeve! There! This mirror will reveal it.



Gopu, you are finished today! Take this! And this!

Pow... Pow... Punch!

Did you hear that! Your son is killing my poor boy! I'm clearing out.

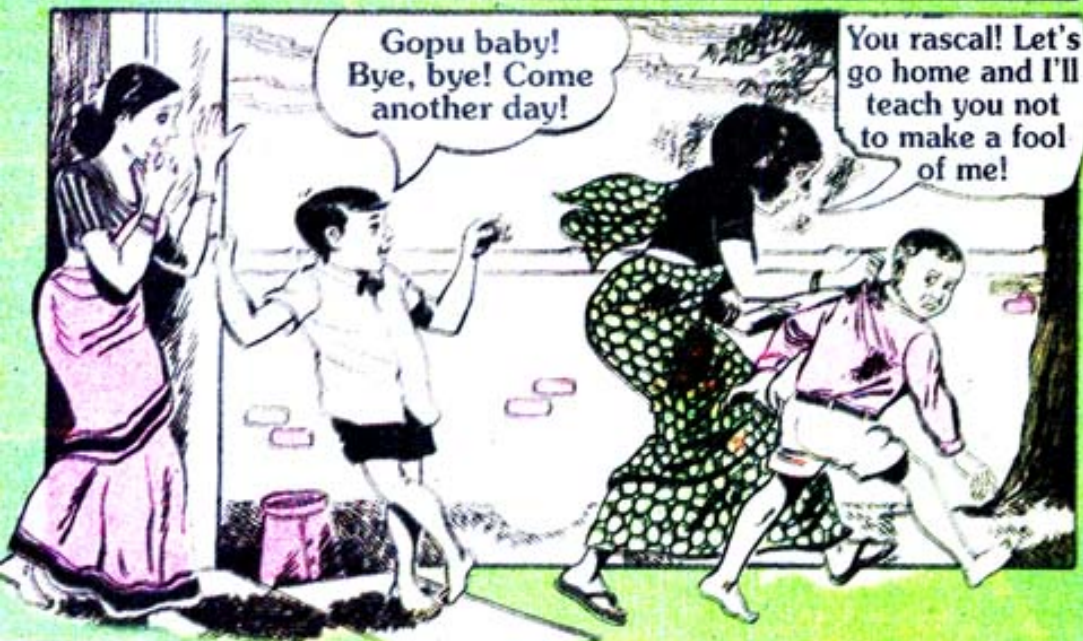


My idea worked!



Oh! Oh! OooH! A shower of coal powder. Tragedy!

I thought it was Balu coming out!



Gopu baby! Bye, bye! Come another day!

You rascal! Let's go home and I'll teach you not to make a fool of me!

CRICKET FOR CROOKS!

Cricket is supposed to be played by gentlemen. But it appears to have become a game for crooks! Betting thrives and bookies lure cricketers with money to throw away matches.

True, money is important. But it must be earned the hard way and also the honest way. Easy and dishonest money makers are traitors. They are not loyal either to the game or to their country. For them the expressions "a fight till the end" and "do or die" have no meaning.

The cricket control board, the tax authorities and intelligence agencies should be alert and nip this tendency in the bud atleast in future. Let us put cricket back on its high pedestal.

- Anand, Std. XI,
Shreeram welfare Societies
H.S., Mumbai.

PREVENTION BETTER THAN CURE

Recently I came across an article in a newspaper which shocked me. The Dal lake in Kashmir is getting polluted and has been gradually decreasing in size!

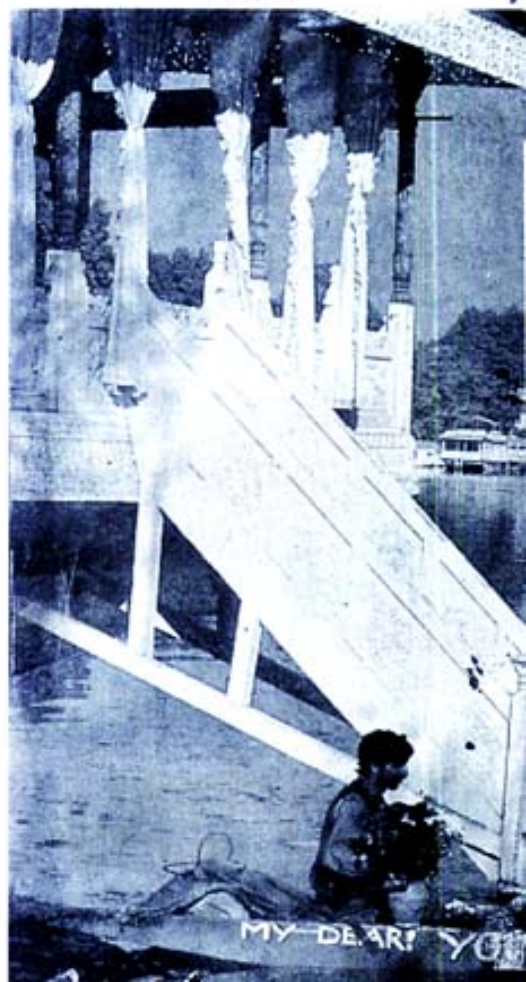
The Dal lake is famous all over the world for its beauty and serene surroundings. But now

VIEWPOINT
VIEWPOINT
VIEWPOINT

with militancy on the increase and pollution beyond control both these aspects have been affected.

We have to preserve the natural wealth that we have and not destroy it.

* Dal Lake





The government must take stringent steps to stop pollution of our earth, waterways and reservoirs. This should be achieved by both education and severe punishment.

(This correspondent has forgotten to write his/her name or address.)

FREEDOM MISUSED!

The government is now planning to spend several lakhs to clean up Dal lake, may be crores! This is like closing the stable after the horse has run away.

If we had taken preventive measures earlier, the Dal would not have been polluted to this extent and we may not have to spend so much of tax payers money.

Fifty three years of freedom and what have we learnt? To misuse freedom!

Today the nation is threatened by extremists. In a democracy there is freedom for dissent, but not to kill. What ever may be one's demands it must be achieved by discussion and not by destruction. Militancy must be





EACH ONE TEACH ONE!

People living in towns and cities are fairly well educated but in rural areas illiteracy thrives.

Organisations like boy scouts and guides, N.C.C., J.R.C., etc. can be induced to spread education on a voluntary basis.

But this is not enough. 'Each one teach one' is a slogan more bandied about than put to practice.

The state and central governments should give top priority to education. With T.V. and I.T. at their disposal the governments can work wonders if only they put their minds to it and work in unison with a definite plan of action. Literacy is not enough; proper education must be the aim to turn out good and honest citizens who will work to uplift the country in their own spheres of activity. Most of our problems ultimately boil down to lack of proper education and once this aspect is taken care of our country will outshine any other in this world.

- **D. Dheepthy, Std. IX,
V.R.M.H.S.S., Trichy.**

curbed.

The youth of the country think that their whole time hobby is cinema. The producers have the freedom to produce a successful picture. But they don't have the freedom to corrupt the minds of the youth of this country.

Students have the freedom to study but they should not think they have the freedom to rag and eve tease.

Politicians have the freedom to stand for elections, come to power and rule the country. But they don't have the freedom to make money by corruption.

Similarly in all walks of life freedom should be enjoyed with restraint and with a sense of responsibility. Only then will our nation prosper.

**Namratha Acharya, Std.
XD, S.T.S. Bangalore.**



Materials like silica do not crystallize but remain in amorphous state when heated and cooled. The result is hard but brittle transparent glass.

Special kinds of glass have other ingredients added to it as required. Boron oxide, aluminium oxide, lead oxide etc. when added to the basic ingredients detailed in the

* Glass Blower

THE ART OF MAKING GLASS

Just take a look around you. You will find that you are surrounded by glass in some form or other. Window panes, bulbs, framed photographs, mirrors, decorative pieces and so on.

The art of making glass was known to man since ancient times. Glass beads made in 2500 B.C. were found in Egypt. A coloured glass rod found in Babylonia is even older.

The basic ingredients for making ordinary glass are silica, sodium carbonate and calcium carbonate. All these are finely powdered mixed and then melted together in a big furnace. The melted mixture becomes homogenous and is then cooled.

previous paragraph, give special qualities to the end product. To add colour, oxides of chromium, copper, iron, cobalt etc. are added as required.

Fibre glass is very useful in research and in modern technology. Glass wool is made from glass fibre and is used for thermal insulation in walls, tanks and refrigerators.

- G. Sri Madhura, age 13, Sitaram Vidyalaya M.H.S.S., Chennai.

SCENE - I

Place : A Circus

Characters : Sivakami, Vijay and Raja.

(Spectators show their tickets, enter the arena and take their seats. Soon the elephant show commences.)

Sivakami : See Vijay! How clever they are!

Vijay : Yes! They are so strong, yet they are so gentle. They are

A BLACK ROSE

heavy but the stool they sit on doesn't break.

Raja (to him self) : I have heard these voices before. The voices belong to Vijay and Sivakami. But... But... isn't Sivakami blind? how can she comment on the performance of the elephants? I will take a look...

(He turns his head and finds Vijay and Sivakami three rows behind him. The show comes to an end and Raja walks hurriedly to catch up with Vijay.)

Raja (closing the eyes of Vijay from behind) : Guess who?

Vijay : Is it Raja?

Raja : Correct! I guessed you were behind me in the arena, listening to your voice and hastened to meet you.

Vijay : Nice of you. It's

been a long time. Meet Sivakami.

Sivakami : How are you Raja? You do look smart!

Raja : Thanks for the compliment; but I have a doubt...

I have heard these voices before. The voices belong to Vijay and Sivakami.

Sivakami : I know. Its natural that you should doubt my capacity to see you. The vision in my eyes have been restored Raja. Its a long and sad story.

Raja : Tell me about it.

Vijay : Lets go home, we will explain there.



SCENE - II

*Place : Vijay's house.
The same characters.*

(Sivakami enters with three cups of tea while vijay and Raja are seated)

Sivakami : Have some tea Raja.

Raja : Sure. While I'm sipping tea I would also like to hear the story which you promised, Vijay!

Vijay : Ofcourse. Do you remember summerland school?



This one-act play wins the first prize in the contest announced in August 2000 issue.

Raja : How can I forget it?

Vijay : And Chandru?

Raja : That dark skinned chap? Yes I remember him too. All of us were in the same class. But I left at the end of the year since my father was transferred.

Vijay : Correct. I'll tell you what happened after you left.

SCENE - III

(Flash back)

Place : Summerland school grounds; under a tree.

Time : Lunch Break.

Characters : Vijay, Chandru and friends.

Vijay : What do you have for lunch Chandru?

Friends : Oh! The usual curd rice and nothing else. (They laugh)

Chandru : (Sadly) My parents can't afford even curd rice. This is butter milk rice.

Vijay : Chandru! How ever much curd or buttermilk rice you eat, you will continue to be black. White rice will not make you fair!

(Everyone laughs)

Chandru : Oh God! Why do you create some people black and others fair? (cries)

Vijay : Blackie! Balckie! Crow! Crow!

Friends : Caw! Caw!

(Chandru closes his tiffin box and walks away without finishing his lunch. Laughter follows him)

The lorry driver applies the breaks but is unable to stop it in time. It hits Chandru and throws him on to the platform.

SCENE - IV

(Flashback continues)

Place : St. Xaviers Road

Time : Evening

Characters : Vijay and Chandru

(Vijay begins to cross the road without noticing a lorry coming at full speed)

Chandru : Vijay! Stop! Vijay!

Vijay : I have no time for you blackie!

Chandru : Look out!

(He runs towards Vijay and pushes him away from the path of the lorry. The lorry driver applies the breaks but is unable to stop it in time. It hits Chandru and throws him on to the platform. Vijay gets up and rushes towards Chandru who is unconscious.)

Vijay : You poor boy! You

rushed to save my life! Are you hurt? Please speak to me Chandru! Please! (Cries.)

SCENE - V

(Flash back continues)

Place : Hospital

Time : Night

Characters : Doctor, Vijay, Chandru and his parents.

Doctor (to parents) : you will have



to be prepared for the worst. I did all that I possibly could. Your son is a brave lad.

Parents (in tears) : We understand doctor. Let us talk to him.

Chandru (to parents) : Don't cry. I have one last wish. Promise me you will grant me the wish.

Parents : We promise.

Chandru : Call Vijay. (Vijay nears the cot) Vijay! I know your sister lost her eye sight owing to a small pox attack, some years back. When I die, I want the doctors to restore her eye sight by accepting my eyes as a donation! Please say

yes!

Vijay : Yes my dear friend. I realise very late that you are not a black crow but a black rose. Please forgive me.

(Chandru breathes his last)

SCENE - VI

Place : Vijay's house

Characters : Sivakami, Vijay and Raja

Vijay : That's the sad story Raja. I can never forgive myself.

Sivakami : Care for another cup of tea, Raja?

Raja : No thanks. So that's how you regained your eye sight! Amazing story indeed! But Vijay, you should stop hating yourself.

Vijay : How is it possible?

Raja : Chandru has shown us how. Let us all take a vow that we will donate our organs to the needy when we die.

Sivakami : We will also be kind to everybody. Then we will have peace of mind and happiness.

Vijay : Yes, Chandru will always dwell in my heart, guide me, and make me a happy man.

(Screen)

**S. Maheswari, Age 15,
Govt. Hr. Sec. School,
Indira Nagar,
Pondicherry.**

**MAHESWARI WINS
RS.200/-**



The Chinese leader Li Peng visited India recently to improve friendly relationship between the two countries. Though a lot of water has flown under the bridge since the indo-china war, there is still a border dispute and questioned about this Mr. Li said, "there was a desire to address the issue on both sides" and "where there is a will there is a way." Very diplomatic indeed!

Li Peng also said that China will join hands with India to fight terrorism and that China hoped for a peaceful solution to the Kashmir issue.

* Li Peng



wanted to be part of Pakistan. Though there has been a 'cease fire' Pakistan still occupies a big portion of Kashmir and there are frequent battles like the recent Kargil war.

Meanwhile many Kashmiris who want independent status for Kashmir, have formed extremists groups and armed themselves. Pakistan is sending terrorists across the border stealthily to cause death and destruction.

In such a difficult atmosphere our leaders have to act with foresight and wisdom to settle for peace and prosperity for Kashmiris.

An all party Hurriat conference delegation is visiting Pakistan provided passports are issued by the government

BEDS OF THORNS!

of India.

They hope to discuss matters with Pakistan authorities for a peaceful solution of the Kashmir issue. Pakistan says it will hold talks with an open mind.

The Kashmir problem has become very complicated during the past fifty years. After India became independent in 1947, the king of Kashmir a Hindu, opted for merger of Kashmir with India. Pakistan objected to this and sent troops into Kashmir, claiming that Kashmir had a Muslim majority who

The Ayodhya issue also proves to be a bed of thorns. The destruction of Babri Masjid has created a lot of bitterness and cases have been registered even against top leaders who are now central government ministers. The Vishwa Hindu Parishad is determined to build a temple for Rama at the very place where the Babri Masjid stood and this is being viewed with great concern by all who want the best of relations between the Hindu and Muslim communities in India. Meanwhile a B.J.P. member of parliament Vinay Katiyar has held talks with Ayodhya Muslims for amicable settlement of the Rama Janmabhoomi issue. Not much is expected out of these talks.

ALOOKA MADRA

You need : 250 gms of potato (boiled), Ghee 2 spoons, Curd - 1 bowl, Haldi - ½ tsp, salt - ½ tsp, Cloves - 4, Garam masala - ½ tsp, (chopped) Ginger - 1 no., Chilli - 1 no.

Method : Cook the chopped ginger, cloves and chilli in ghee. Fry the boiled potato and then pour curd. Add ½ tsp of haldi and salt.

Leave the ghee to separate from the curd. Put Garam masala mix and serve hot with chapati.

N.C. Gayathri, Std. IX, Nirmala Rani, Bangalore.



FOREIGN STAMPS

100 ALL DIFFERENT, ALL LARGE
WHOLE WORLD, USED
COMMEMORATIVE STAMP PACKET
Rs.75/- BY MONEY ORDER. NO V.P.P
ALL STAMPS ARE GENUINE AND
CATALOGUED

MANJUNATH BABU, GE
10A, D3 D3 ROAD,
BALARENGAPURAM, MADURAI - 625 009

Many bees have the most unusual way of communicating. They perform food-dances on the face of the bee-hives. When a foraging bee locates a source of food, she must let the other bees know about it as soon as possible.

If the source of food is nearby, she will perform a simple but energetic round dance involving a series of rapid circles. This will send the



Nature Spot



number '8', in which the two loops are separated by a straight run.

Waggle Dance of the Bees!

other bees to search in the vicinity of the hive. If the source of food is farther away and if more information is needed, a wagggle dance is performed. How the bees understand this complicated wagggle dance is amazing. But it has been experimentally proved that they do understand.

The forager performs the wagggle dance on the face of the honey comb. The dance takes up the form of

The bee wags her body only in the straight run. Using the sun as a reference point, the bee uses the straight run to show the direction of the source of food.

If the run is 30 degrees to the right of the vertical, the food is 30 degrees to the right of the sun. Once the right direction is indicated other bees join the rush to the source of food.

- Visalakshi Ramani

GOKULAM ART GALLERY



K. SHANKAR,
Std. XII, S.E.Rly. Jr. College,
Visakhapatnam.

VINEETA VENUGOPAL
Std IXB, Saraswati Vidhyalaya,
Nagpur



DAIPAYAN DAS,
Std III C, Kendriya Vidhyalaya,
Ashok Nagar, Chennai - 83.

NIRJA KUMARI
Std. X, Chittaranjan
West Bengal

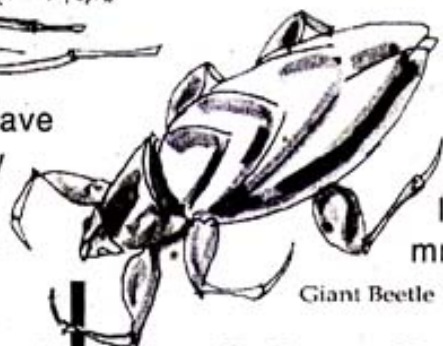




* Stick insect

Stick insects have long, thin bodies. They are brown or green in colour. Often they are

110 gms.



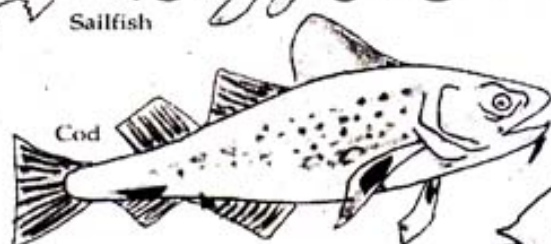
Giant Beetle

The lightest insect is the parasitic wasp. It is also known as the fairy fly. It is less than 0.2 mm long and

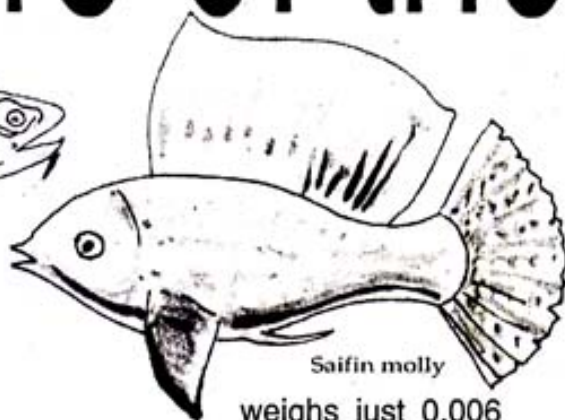
Wonders of the



Sailfish



Cod



Saifin molly

mistaken for the twigs they sit on. Their enemies such as birds and lizards fail to spot them. If they are attacked, stick insects fall to the ground and lie still. Once again they become difficult to spot.

The African Goliath beetle is the heaviest of all insects. It grows as long as 12 cm and weighs upto

gm.

Grasshoppers make sounds by rubbing the small pegs on their hind legs against a hard vein on their forewings. Males sing to

What did the hawai chappal tell the shoe?

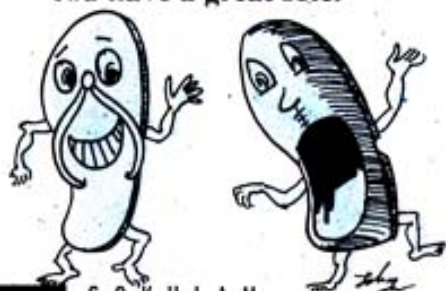
"You have a great sole."

What did the match box tell the sole match-stick?

You are a "matchless" match.

And what did the match stick tell the empty match box?

You are "matchless".



attract females.

Sailfish are the fastest swimmers. They reach a speed of 109 km/h. The fish's large dorsal fin can lie against its body when

mongoose are all enemies of snake.

Humming birds flap their wings upto 70 times every second.

This makes a



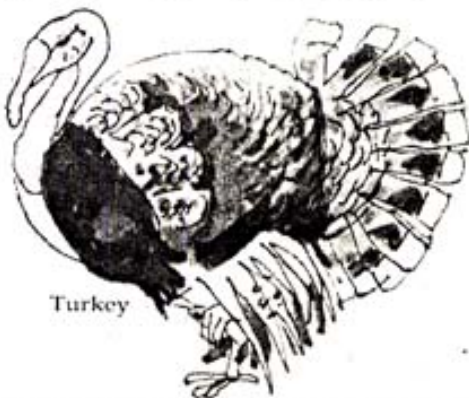
Animal World!

it is swimming at top speed, to help streamline it.

All fishes do not lay eggs. Several species such as Saifin molly keep their eggs within their body. It gives birth to as many as 200 live young.

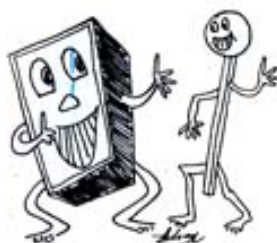
The Atlantic Cod has a single whisker - like projection under its chin. The whisker helps it feel for its food. It is called Barbel.

Turkey, pigs, hedgehogs and



humming noise which gives them their name. Humming birds can also fly backwards.

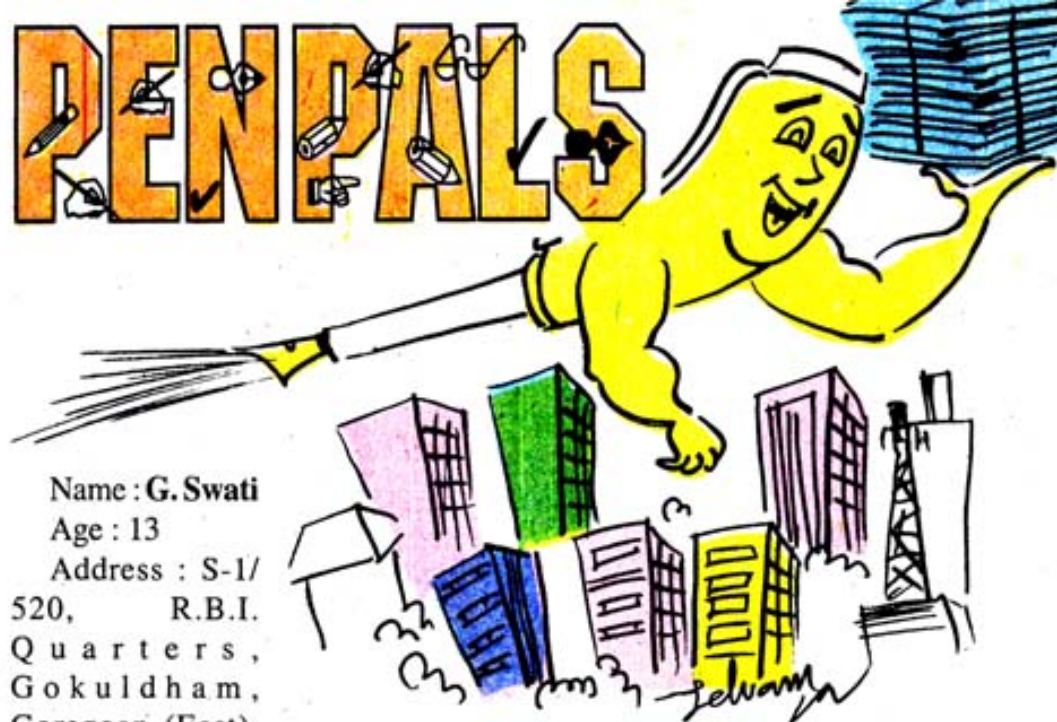
**Saranya Parthiban, Std. VIII B,
Rajhans Vidhyala, Mumbai.**



Why does the nose catch cold?
Because it is between "eyes".

R. Lakshmi, age 12, Std. VIII C, National HS, Calcutta.

RENPAIS



Name : G. Swati

Age : 13

**Address : S-1/
520, R.B.I.
Quarters,
Gokuldharm,
Goregoan (East),
Mumbai - 400 063.**

**Hobbies : Singing, playing,
badminton, reading novels and
biographies, writing poems, cycling,
skating, dancing etc.**

Name : Kaushik V. Bhat

Age : 11

**Address. : A/7, Arya Ashish,
Ramchandra Nagar, Manpada Road,
Dombivli (E) - 421204.**

**Hobbies : Swimming, playing
cricket, stamp collection, reading
books.**

Name : U. Bhavana

Age : 10

**Address : D.No.102, III Stage, III
Cross Hebbal, Mysore.**

**Hobbies : Reading Gokulam,
playing video games, operating
computer, dancing, hearing music,**

reading comics and watching T.V.

Name : Nikhil Menon

Age : 16

**Address : C-1/204, Marasiddh Park,
Pawar Nagar, Thane - 400 601,
Maharashtra.**

**Hobbies : Reading books, watching
T.V., netsurfing, spending time with
friends, playing.**

Name : K. Asvin

Age : 11

**Address : 86, Samaspiean Street,
Trichy - 8**

**Hobbies : Playing indoor and
outdoor games, reading books, writing
essays.**

Name : K. Tharani

Age : 12

Address : 36, Vasudevan Street,

Periya Agaram, Gingee, Villupuram Dist.

Hobbies : Playing shuttlecock, chess, carrom, video games, reading magazines.

Name : **A.R. Shaikh Mohammed**

Age : 17

Address : 22/1350, M.T. Street, Neelfield, Vaniyambadi - 635 751, Tamil Nadu.

Hobbies : Making friends, music, reading, chatting, browsing, collecting stamps.

Names : **Divya George and Ramya George**

Age : 10 and 12

Address : B-205, Adarsh, Near Bombay Dyeing Spring Mills, G.D. Ambedkar Road, Naigaon, Dadar (E), Mumbai - 14.

Hobbies : Reading, watching T.V., talking, outdoor games.

Name : **Divya Anil Kumar**

Age : 13

Address : 34, Mahajana High School Road, Jayalakshmi Puram, Mysore - 570 012.

Hobbies : Playing tennis, drawing and painting, singing, cooking and reading books.

Name : **R. Trilok**

Age : 15

Address : Srirang, 22/374, Railway Bridge Road, Chalakudy, Trissur District, Kerala - 680 307.

Hobbies : Reading, writing poems, Coin and stamp collection, sluething &

shadowing, playing cricket and football, quizzing and many more.

Name : **P.S. Krishna Teja**

Age : 13

Address : 352, H.I.G. Phase-I, B.H.E.L., R.C.Puram, Hyderabad - 502 032.

Hobbies : Playing cricket, computer games, drawing & painting, making friends, music.



Joe : What did the banana say to the elephant?

Moe : I don't know.

Joe : Nothing. Bananas can't talk.

S. Preethi, VII C, Kendriya Vidhyalaya, Chennai - 83

Name : **K.M. Sarayu**

Age : 11

Address : 15/F, Russian Complex Sector-7, Bhilai. Madhya Pradesh.

Hobbies : Collecting stamps, dancing, singing, playing badminton, reading Gokulam, reading storybooks, computer games.

Name : **K.M. Sreenath**

Age : 6

Address : 15/F, Russian Complex, sector - 7, Bhilai. Madhya Pradesh.

Hobbies : Computer games, reading story books and jokes.

Name : D. Rajkiran

Age : 14 years

**Address : 12.3.44E- Kadubettu,
Convent Road, Udipi - 576 101.**

**Hobbies : Reading, watching TV.,
cycling, playing computer games,
quizzing.**

Name : Shweta

Age : 13

**Address : 6, Laxmi Nivas, 154,
Hindu Colony, Dadar, Mumbai - 400
014.**

**Hobbies : Reading, dancing,
drawing, badminton, listening to
music, cycling, making new friends.**

Name : J. Dineshkumar

Age : 12

**Address : 18, Kuttcherry Road, G.H.
Quarters, Udumalpet, Coimbatore Dt.**

**Hobbies : Playing cricket, collecting
coins and stamps, watching cartoon**

**network, cycling, playing football and
reading Gokulam.**

Name : K.S. Himaranth

Age : 12

**Address : D2/52, K.R.P.Sullurpetta,
Nellore Dist. - 524 121, Andhra
Pradesh.**

**Hobbies : Playing tennis, cricket and
chess, collecting stamps & old coins,
singing songs, etc.**

Name : D. Johnson Parthiban

Age : 14

**Address : Plot No.54, A.L.S. Nagar,
Madambakkam, Tambaram, Chennai -
600 073.**

**Hobbies : Writing stories and
poems, reading Gokulam, watching
movies, playing cricket and video
games, diary writing, learning music.**

Name : D. Subhash

Age : 16

**Address : 333, Srinivasa Nilayam,
Kuvempu Nagar, Ist Cross, Vijnapura,
Doorvani Nagar (P.O.), Bangalore - 560
016.**

**Hobbies : Painting, Collection of
stamps, cycling, playing cricket and
volleyball, surfing the net, making
friends.**

Name : N. Sowmya

Age : 12

**Address : Block 2E7, Watch
Quarters, Bangalore - 31.**

**Hobbies : Surfing the net, skating,
painting, playing basket ball, watching
T.V., writing poems, gardening etc.**

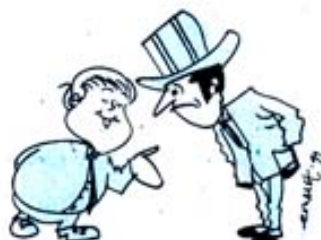
Ralph : Down on our farm, we had
a hen lay an egg six inches long.

John : That's nothing. On our farm
we can beat that.

Ralph : How?

John : With an egg beater.

**S. Preethi, VII C, Kendriya
Vidhyalaya, Chennai - 83**



THE G.K. TEST

Satish, tell us how you won the first prize in the G.K. test.

I've been reading Gokulam for sometime now. No wonder I won!

Besides GK, Gokulam gives information. It has puzzles, stories and comics.

My father subscribes to it. It costs only Rs 72 for 12 issues and Rs 36 for six issues. You can send an MO or DD...

... In favour of the circulation manager to the address on the last page of the magazine.

Can we send Gokulam as a gift?

Sure, you can. Outstation cheques aren't accepted, remember.

Hurry! Let's subscribe to it today.

SALIM'S FRIEND

by

venu variath
v.s. sajeevan

There lived in Baghdad a rich trader called Mehmood. Salim was his only son.

Come friends,
lets have camel
race.



Bring some
food and wine
too.

We are lucky
to have Salim
as a friend.

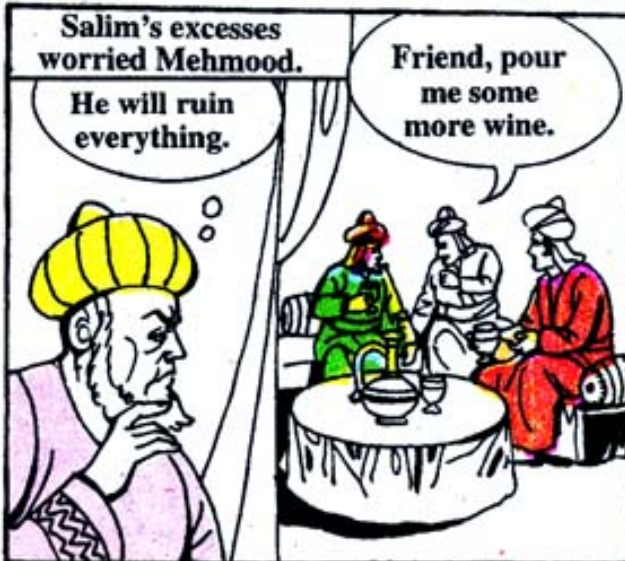
Right.



Salim's excesses
worried Mehmood.

He will ruin
everything.

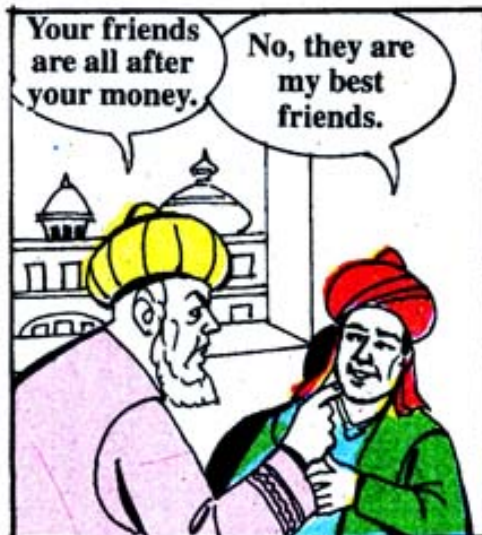
Friend, pour
me some
more wine.

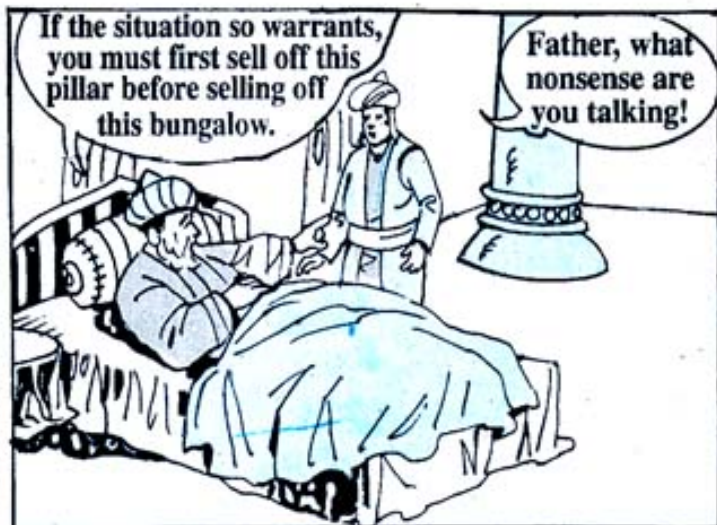


Son, you are
not a small
boy now.

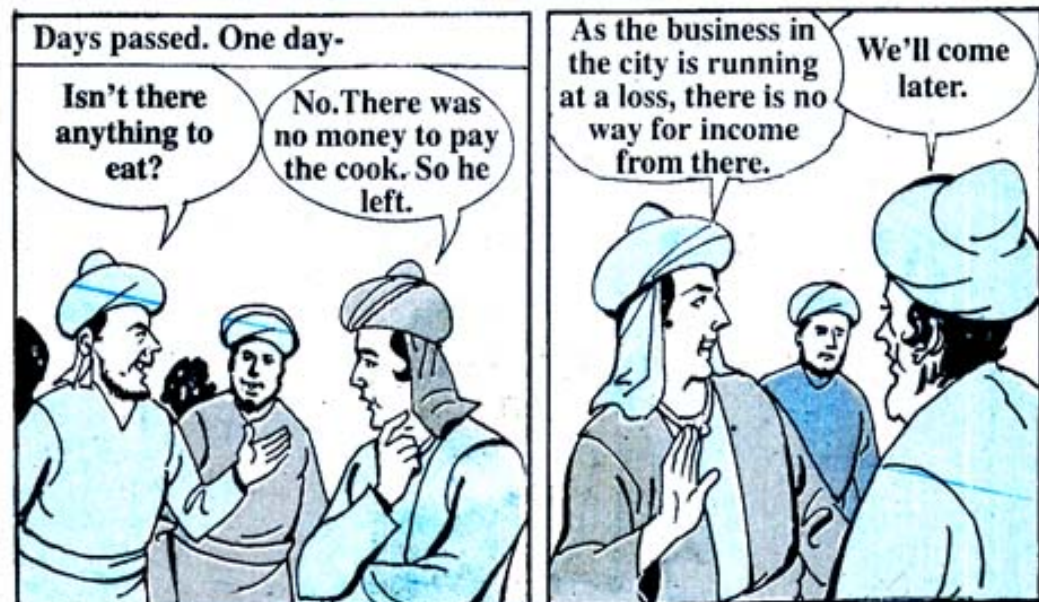
Heck! I am
sick and tired
of hearing your
advice.

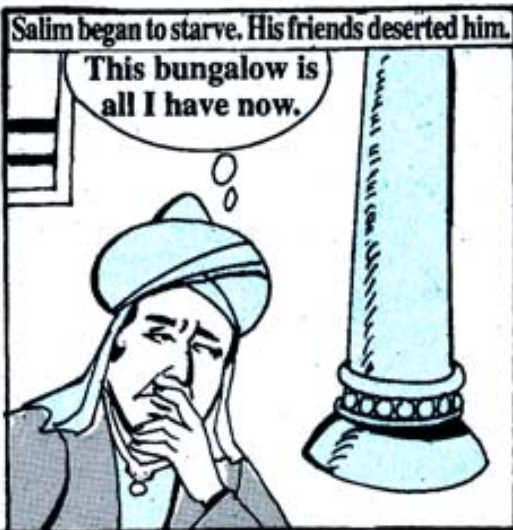






Mehmood died shortly. But that did not deter Salim from his exploits.

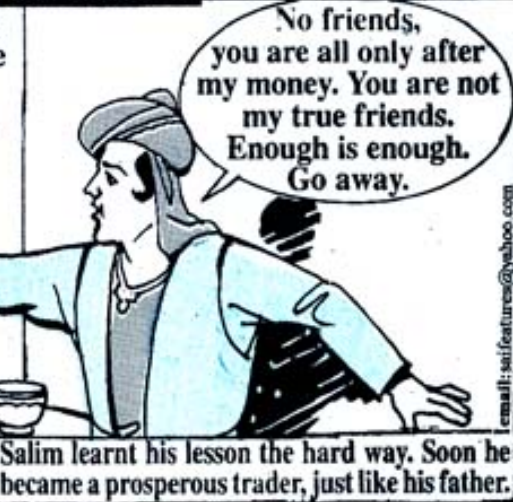
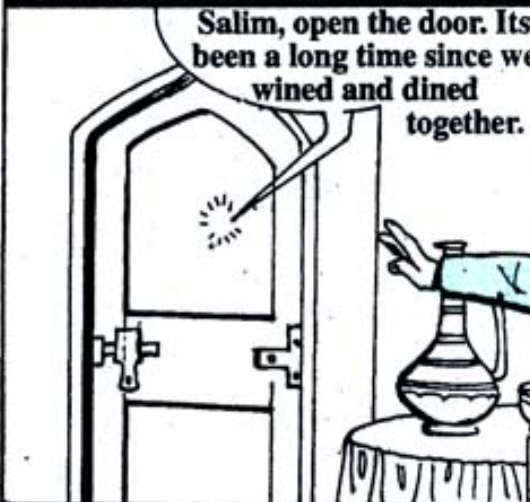




email: saifeatures@yahoo.com

SAI FEATURES, ALUVA-683107

Salim once more became rich. His friends returned.



email: saifeatures@yahoo.com



Teacher : What would you like to be when you grow up?

Student : A teacher.

Teacher : Why?

Student : Because I love scolding others!

Patient : How can I ever repay you for your kindness?

Doctor : By cheque, money order or cash.



Stop! Laugh!

Patient : Doctor, I am so fed up of my disease. I feel like ending my life, what should I do.

Doctor : Don't worry, just leave it to me!

— Ashwin, Chinmaya Vidyalyaya, Chennai.



Gangster : Hands up! Quick.

Traveller : Promise that you won't tickle me.

- Arvind Gupta, Std. X,
Thana, Mumbai.





Judge : Order! Order!

Culprit : One plate chicken, one plate samosas and a cup of tea!

**Preeti S. Revankar, Age 14,
Hubli.**

Barber : Were you wearing a red scarf when you came in?

Customer : No.

Barber : Oh dear! I must have cut you skin.

**- Bob Dey, Std. IX, Holy
Cross School, Silchar, Assam.**



Proceed!



Mother : Sonu, did you eat all the cookies?

Sonu : No Mom, I did not touch one.

Mother : Strange. There is just one left.

Sonu : That is the one I did not touch!

Constable : Is this dog yours?

Rajesh : Sorry, it's not mine.

Constable : But it is following you.

Rajesh : So what, you are also following me.

**- Girish V. Sahani, Std. X B, Shri
Sahajanand Secondary School.
Dear Girish, pl. send your address.**



BRAIN BOGGLER

You are given a four litre jar and a three litre jar. You can use as much water as you want and throw away as much as you don't need. But using only the above two jars, can you measure two litres of water for me?

- S.R. Chaitanya, Age 13,
St. Joseph's School,
Chitradurga, Karnataka.

PUZZLE PAGE

OLYMPIC QUIZ

1. Which olympian was known as the 'Flying Sikh'?
2. Women were first admitted to the olympic games in...?
3. Name the first aborigine to win an athletic gold.
4. Name the boxing champion who won his third consecutive gold medal in the 2000 olympics.
5. Which olympian was called the Pocket Hercules in his childhood?
6. What are 'Stoke Mandeville Games'?
7. Who lit the glorious millenium olympic flame this year?
8. Who won the gold in both the summer and winter olympics?
9. Which olympic rower misplaced her silver medal in a cab during the Sydney 2000 olympics?
10. How many metres of fabric were used for the costumes in the Sydney 2000 olympics?

- H. Srinandini, Std. X A, Assisi
Mat. H.S.S., Chennai - 89.

MATHEMAGIC!

Ask your friend to think of any number between 1 and 9. Ask him to multiply the number by two and the answer by three. He must then divide the resultant number by the number he originally thought of. Now he has an answer which you can guess correctly as six! Illustration.

He thinks of the number 4.

Multiply by 2 = 8

Multiply by 3 = 24

Divide by 4 = 6

Your friend has the final answer as six. But how do you arrive at the figure six?

Since you asked him to multiply first by 2 and then by 3, $3 \times 2 = 6$

This will hold good for any number. Supposing he thought of the number 8,

$8 \times 4 = 32$

$32 \times 2 = 64$

$64 \div 8 = 8$

You wanted him to multiply by 4 first and 2 next. $4 \times 2 = 8$.

So you can easily guess the final



Mangla. Ganga was between Mangla and Narmada. Sushila had to take rest, as she was not feeling well. Who was ahead of all?

- V. Prakash, Std. VI D,
M.S.S.T., Dombivili

WHO? WHICH? WHAT?

1. Who was the Indian scientist awarded Nobel-prize for physics?
2. Which is laughing gas?
3. What instrument is used to measure electric currents?
4. Who invented dynamo?
5. What does the word 'panthera tigris' stand for?
6. What is the name given to the science dealing with plant life?

- V. Keerthi, Std. XI,
K.V.C.L.R.I.

BOX DILEMMA

Anand has one big box and five boxes of a smaller size. He also has 25 balls with him. Each small box can hold five balls.

He wants to arrange the 25 balls in the six boxes in such a way, that no box is empty. Each box must contain an odd number of balls too.

Can you help him with this problem?

- H. Sriram, Std. VIII A, S.B.O.A.
Matric Hr. Sec. School,
Coimbatore.

CRAZY RACE!

In a running race Sushila was ahead of Narmada. Vidya was behind

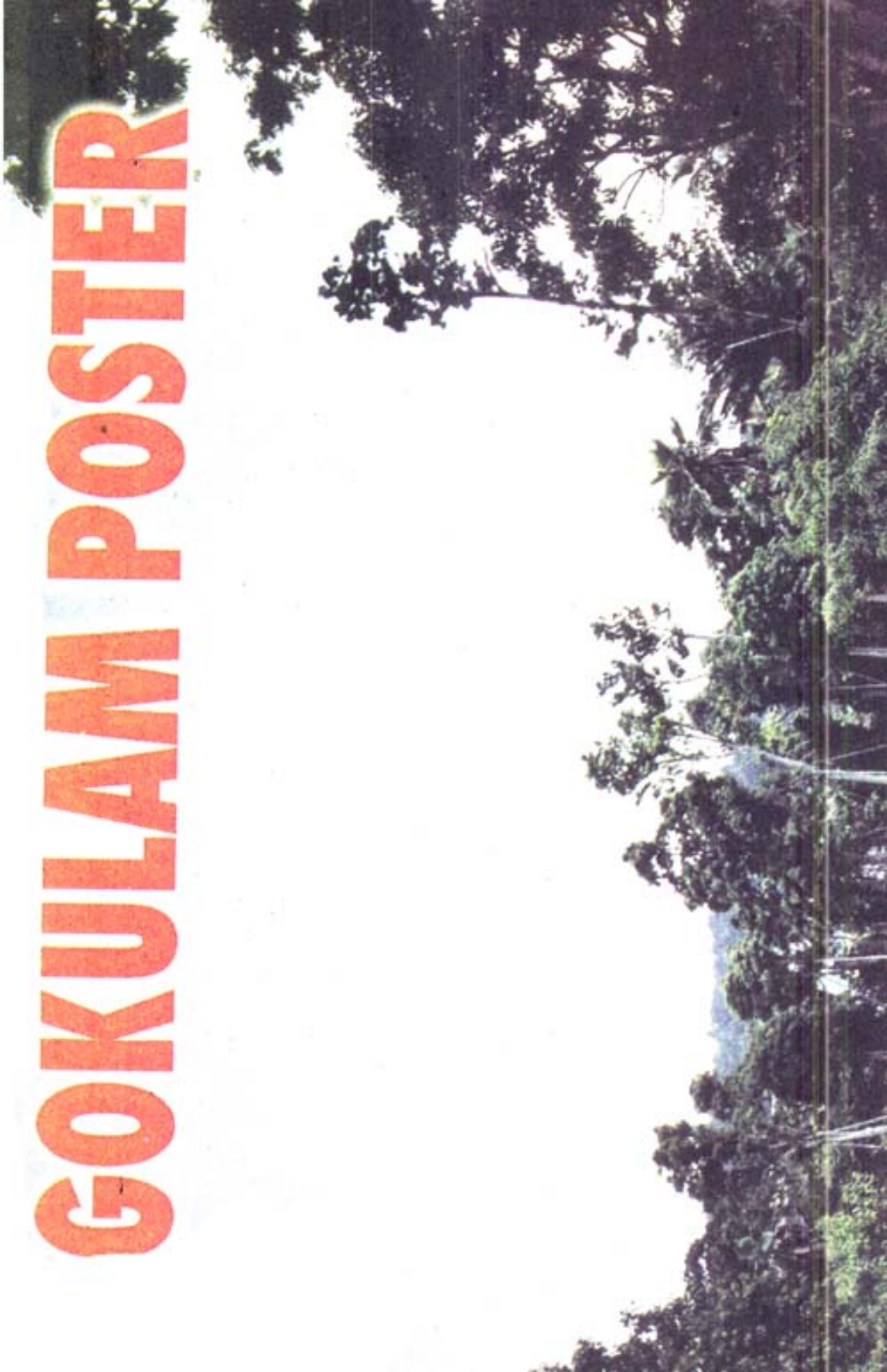
GHOST RIDDLES

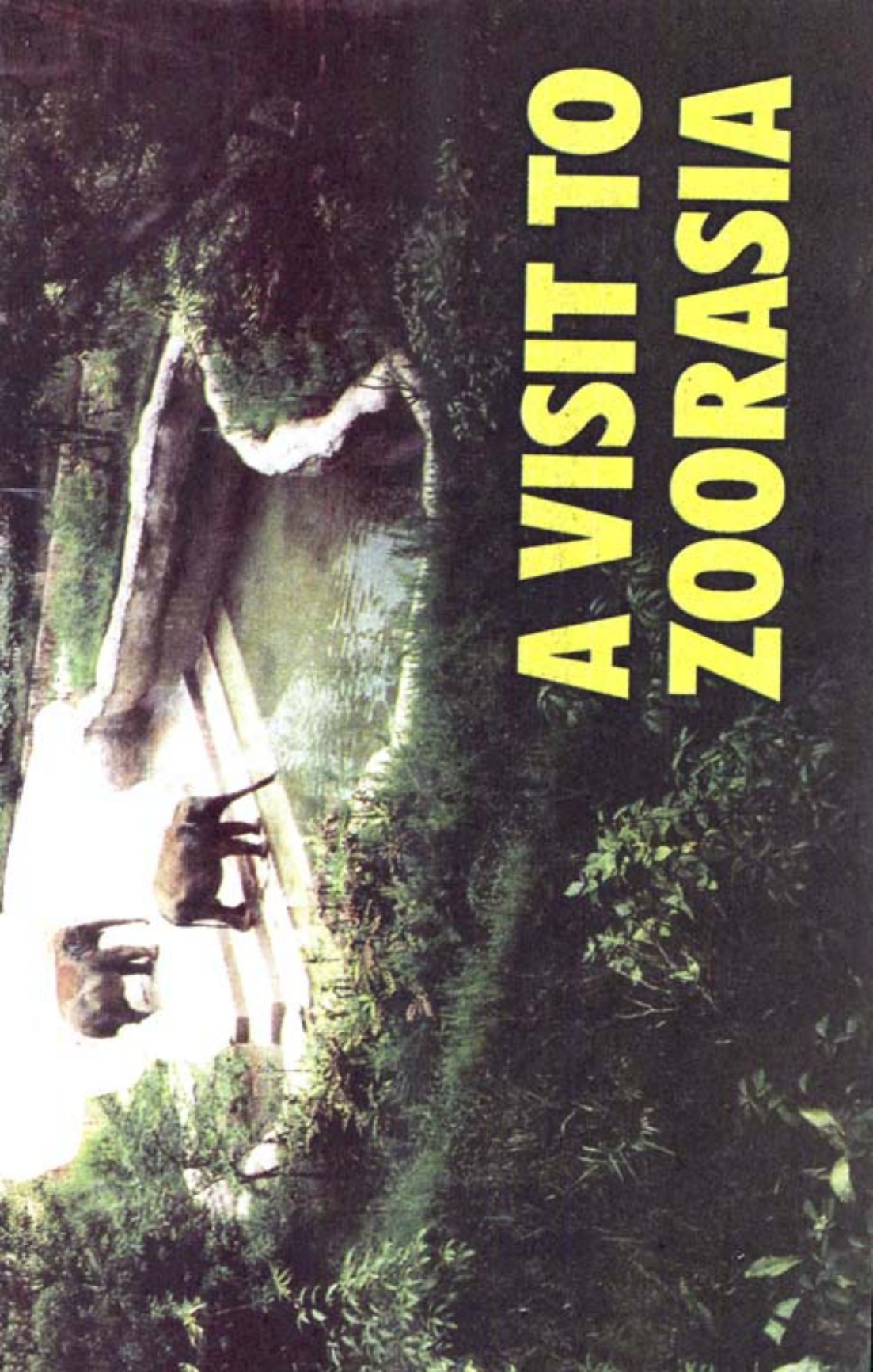
1. How do ghosts keep their feet dry?
2. What do you call a ghost doctor?
3. What do you flatten a ghost with?
4. Why did the lady marry a ghost?
5. Which ghost has the best hearing?
6. What do ghosts call their navy?
7. What jewels do ghosts wear?
8. What do short sighted ghosts wear?

- Pooja Menon, Std. VII C,
K.V. Kanjikode, Palakkad.

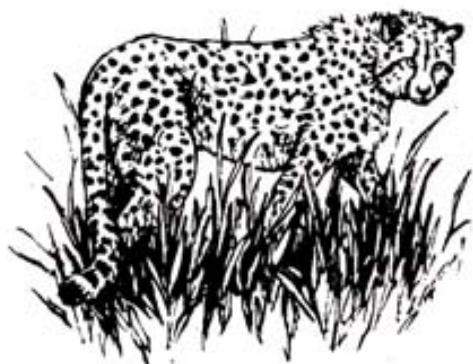
ANSWERS PAGE : 51

GOKULAM POSTER





A VISIT TO ZOO RASIA



* Cheetah (Africa & India)

Japan being a small country, did not have expansive zoos until recently. Only in April 1999 the city of Yokohama allotted a huge track of land measuring 53.3 hectares for a zoo.

This became a necessity since environmentalists

felt that many Asian animals were facing extinction and something must be done to preserve them. They thought that such endangered animals must be kept under their natural surroundings, so that they may live in peace and breeding programs may be initiated. Particular attention was to be paid to Asian animals and so the Yokohama zoo itself is known as Zoorasia. But they have plans for some animals from other parts of the world too like South and Central America.

Zoorasia has enjoyed enormous popularity and entering into it, one is immediately impressed by the tremendous effort taken to recreate a natural environment for

A VISIT TO

each group of animals.

Topography and vegetation are carefully planned to portray the region in which the set of animals are found.

The park is divided into six areas representing Asian tropical forests, sub Arctic forests, Oceania grasslands, Central Asian plains, mountains of Japan and the Amazon jungle.

Visitors can study not only the animals but also their actual living environments. One million visitors were expected during the first year of Zoorasia's opening but animal lovers far exceeded the expectations and 2.24 million tickets were sold! No other zoo in the world enjoys this popularity.

Kenichi Iwasaki-head of publicity for Zoorasia, says that the



* Japanese river otter



* Wildcat (Japan)

its own food source.

Zoorasia also offers many opportunities for visitors to participate in educational activities. Many who came just for recreation later became deeply interested by the amount of information that they were able to get here.

They came again and again and started asking questions and now Iwasaki has a team of experts under him to explain why it is important to avoid extinction of animals, and to describe their natural

ZOORASIA

zoo has four different roles to play. First, the preservation and reproduction of endangered species. Second, recreation for the visitors. Third animal related research and fourth, environmental education.

For instance research on Malaysian tapirs has proved that it eats the plants that grow in wetlands. By excreting waste into the very water it inhabits, the tapir fertilizes the plants that are

habitat and way of life.

The World Resource Institute has estimated that if the world's tropical forests are depleted at



* Bush dog (America)

the same pace as they are today, between 5% and 10% of the various species that live there will become extinct every ten years. This amounts to an average of 100 species every day.

When such is the case, zoos like Zoorasia become very important and they have a great role to play in preserving the eco system.

Courtesy : Pacific Friend

* Giant panda (China)





my hands in, I won't be able to buy the saree of the correct size," replied the man.

Birbal held the man by his hair and helped him to step out.

"Follow me...",

he said.

The man fol-

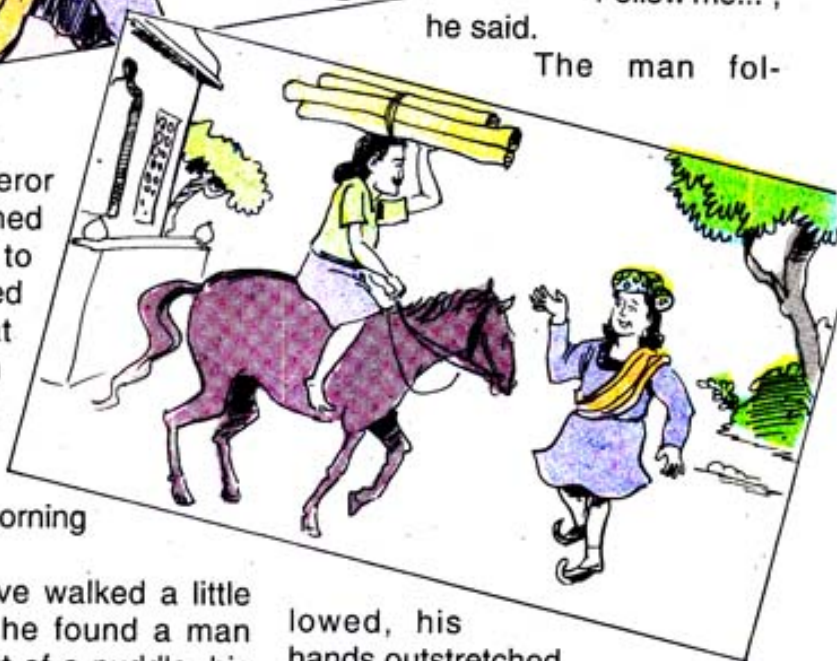
One day emperor Akbar assigned a difficult task to Birbal. He wanted Birbal to find at least five foolish men in Delhi and bring them to court. Birbal set off the next morning itself.

He would have walked a little distance when he found a man trying to step out of a puddle, his hands outstretched. Birbal asked the man, "What are you trying to do?"

The man replied, "I am trying to take my foot off the puddle - can't you see?"

"Why don't you use your hands?" asked Birbal.

"I have to buy a saree for my wife. She has asked me to measure it with my outstretched hand. If I pull



lowed, his hands outstretched.

Birbal's Tough Task

After walking a short distance Birbal came across a man riding a horse. He was carrying wood on his

head.

Birbal enquired, "Why don't you keep the wood on your horse young man?" The man replied, "Already my horse is carrying me though it is very old and weak. How can I expect it to carry the wood too?"

Birbal wanted to laugh but checked himself. He asked the man to follow him. Therefore the three men set off.

It became dark. Birbal could see a man searching for something under the street light.

Birbal asked the man, "What are you looking for?"

The man replied, "I lost my ring while I was walking down that street. There is no light there; so I am searching for it here,

where there is light."

Birbal asked the man to follow him and promised that he would find his ring. The four men made their way to Akbar's court.

When Akbar asked Birbal about the task, he described the foolishness of the men he had come across.

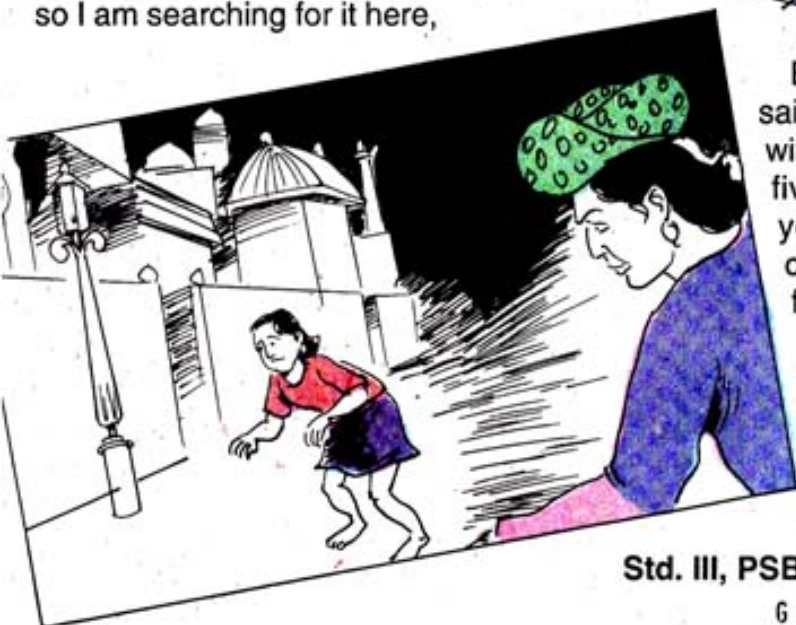
"You have spoken about three foolish men. I asked you to find five" said Akbar.



Birbal said, "Sir, you and I will take the total to five! You because you asked me to carry out such a foolish task and I because I carried out the task."

Both Birbal and Akbar had a hearty laugh.

M.K. Viswanath,
Std. III, PSBBSSS, Chennai.



Once Charles Darwin, the renowned naturalist, was expected to visit a family. The country - house was tense with excitement. The schoolboy of the family ran up to his younger brother. Both of them had heard of the visit.

"He will spend a day or two in our house. Let's take the chance to..."

PLAYING FOOL

In those days fooling others was a popular custom in England, especially among school children.

It was not an easy task to fool a renowned naturalist like Darwin. They had to be very careful. The boys walked in the fields of their village and caught a butterfly, a grasshopper, a beetle and a centipede. They took them into the house and severed the centipede's body, the butterfly's wings, the grasshopper's legs, and the beetle's

head carefully.

Then they stuck the severed pieces together. In their desire to make a fool of the naturalist, even cruelty towards the hapless creatures did not matter.

That evening the boys entered the scientist's room to show him their handiwork. "Can you recognise this bug sir?" the elder boy asked, placing the thing on the table, unwrapping it from his handkerchief.

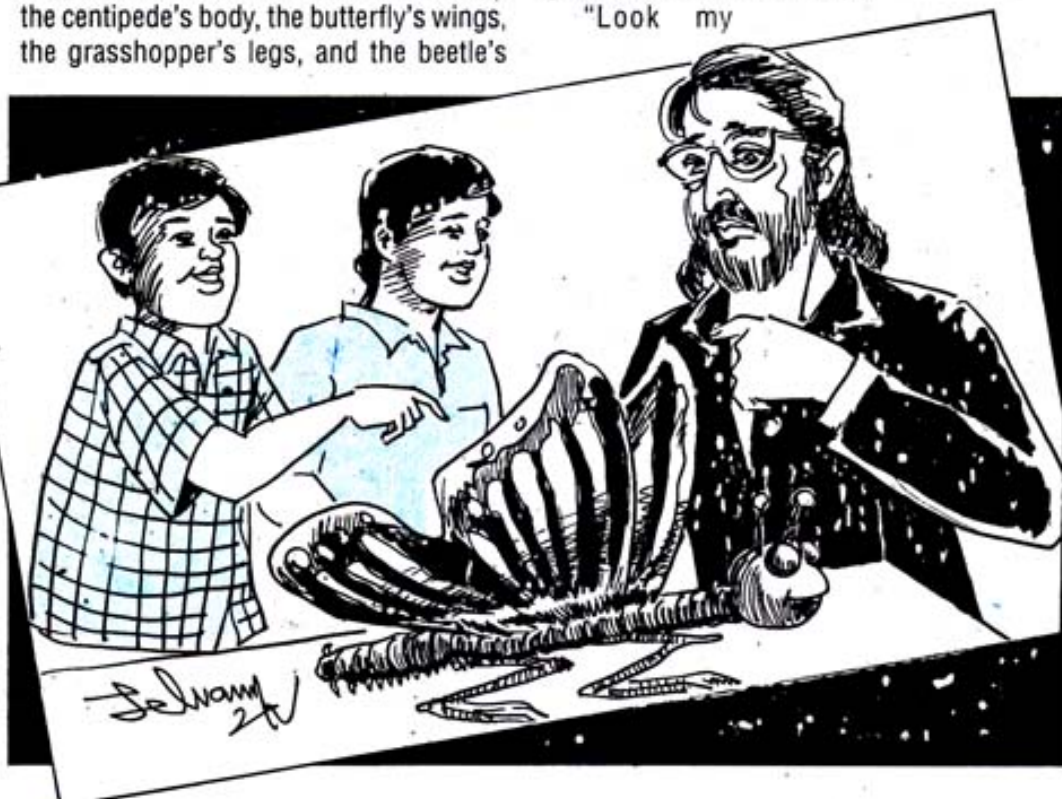
Darwin looked at the bug with much curiosity.

"We caught it in the village field sir," said the boy. "Could you tell us what kind of bug it is?"

Darwin looked carefully at the bug. A smile lit up his eyes. "My! My!" he exclaimed. "It's certainly a very extraordinary creature!"

The boys exchanged a look and laughed to themselves. They had been able to fool a great scientist and naturalist.

"Look my





boy! I have not seen a queer creature like this before. Where has it come from? Where did you find it?"

"We caught it on the grass in the village field, Mr. Darwin!" said the eldest boy, beaming.

"Oh, dear!" A child like smile spread over the scientist's face. "Did you notice whether it hummed when you caught it in the fields?"

"Oh, yes!" replied the boy, his eyes gleaming. "It hummed sir!"

"Hum!" Darwin threw an amused look at the boys. "Then my little friends, it's a humbug!"

"Humbug!" The boys were too taken aback not to show shock.

"I'm sorry," the scientist smiled handsomely at the boys, "if this upsets you!"

The boys went red in the face and looked down at the floor. They wished the floor would open up and swallow them!

Sukhendu Dutta, Calcutta.

FRIEND

*A friend is like a rose,
One who is so close
She is not just a name
Who doesn't care for fame
But a person to share and
borrow*

*Our daily joys and sorrows
A person who helps in need
And does only good deeds
A friend is like a book
Which in difficult times we can
have a look*

*A friend is modest and humble
No doubt unselfish and simple
I am sure if you have such a pal,
You are the luckiest of all!*

**- Nithya Vijay, Age 12,
Kendriya Vidhyalaya,
Kanjikode, Kerala.**



EXPER

TEARS OF THE PAST AND SMILES OF THE PRESENT.

Deepika sat next to me in class. We were dear friends. Ofcourse we used to argue and quarrel but we always made up. Actually the arguments in the end brought us closer to each other every time!

Once a doctor was to give a lecture to us on keeping good health and we assembled in the central hall, along with other students. But we could not help talking to each other. We whispered and even joked!

Another student sitting near us complained to the headmistress and from then on

we were separated. Under instructions from the 'princy' our class teacher made us sit far apart.

How I cried that day on returning home. I couldn't give any reason to my mother and so I cried silently locked up in my room.

But I suppose time is a healer and I am not so close to Deepika any more either physically or mentally. I have another friend who is now very dear to me. Whenever I think of the day when I cried for being separated from Deepika a smile appears on my lips!

**Nanferah Mogral, Std.IXB,
Chinmaya Vidyalaya, Vidhya
Nagar, Kerala**

ROGUE 'UNCLE'!

One day my mother asked me to go and buy groceries from a near by shop. At that time I was in fourth standard. A cousin was with us spending her holidays. I took her



I E N C E



we reached home.

I never saw the rogue again but nowadays I am watchful, always on the look out for bad characters as a precaution.

V. Nirupama,
Std. VII A,
Bhaktavatsalam
Vidyashramam,
Chennai - 80

along with me. After purchasing the things we wanted and after paying for them, I was checking the list, when suddenly a man grabbed my hand. I felt terrified and tried to jerk my hand free. But the man just laughed and held on. I looked up and saw the face of a rogue, which he definitely was. My cousin began to cry. Suddenly I had an idea. I gave the shopping bag to my cousin, covered my mouth, with my free hand and said, "Uncle! I feel like vomiting" and even pretended to retch! He hurriedly let go of my hand and moved away. "Run" I ordered my cousin and took to my heels. We ran wildly and stopped only when

LIFE SAVERS

One evening while my sister and I were walking down the road we heard a loud thud! We turned towards that direction and found that an accident had occurred. A lorry had dashed against a cyclist throwing him on the platform. The cycle had a twisted wheel. The lorry driver, obviously afraid of a police case, sped away. We memorised the number and ran towards the victim a young boy. We stopped an auto and helped the wounded boy into it. He was in great pain and we rushed him to the nearest hospital. The auto driver was kind and would not accept the fare that we offered. The doctors



even while walking on the roads.

- Olivia Anelisa
Crasta, Std. VII, St.
Francis Xavier
G.H.S., Bangalore.

NOT POLITICAL DUST!

took over and phoned the parents of the boy. They started attending to the fractured arm of the boy. We waited till the parents arrived, gave the number of the lorry to them and left. They took down our address and called on us a few days later. We were glad to know that the boy was recovering well. But the lorry or the driver could not be traced. Nowadays my sister and I are very careful

In Delhi the dust is not always political! One sunny day when my aunt and her daughter Preeti took leave of us, my mother and I decided to see them off at the bus stop. My mother took an umbrella and I made fun of her. "It is not going to rain, neither is it too hot" I said. Mother ignored me and carried with her the umbrella. After my aunt and Preeti had boarded the bus we turned to walk back home and confronted a dust storm! Quickly mother unfolded the umbrella and used it as a shield to protect us. We walked back slowly and on reaching home we found that the dust storm had disappeared, as suddenly as it had come.

"An umbrella has many uses" said Mum, "but for it your eyes and mouth would be full of dust now!" From that day on I never made fun of mother.

M. Divya, Std. VIII B,
KVLR, Delhi.

Policeman : I'm looking for a man with one eye called Carnell.

Man : What's his other eye called?

Policeman : ?!?!?

- S. Preethi, VII C, Kendriya
Vidhyalaya, Ashok Nagar,
Chennai-83



BRAIN BOGGLER

Fill the four litre jar, pour the water in the three litre jar to brim and throw away the water. You are left with one litre in the four litre jar, which pour into the three litre jar. Again fill the four litre jar and pour into the three litre jar. Now you are left with two litres water in the four litre jar!



OLYMPIC QUIZ

1. Milkha Singh
2. Amsterdam olympics, 1928
3. Cathy Freeman
4. Felix Savon
5. Naim Suleymanoglu
6. Olympics for the paralysed
7. Cathy Freeman
8. Edward Eagan of America
9. Rachel Taylor
10. 150,000 metres

BOX DILEMMA

Anand places five balls in each of the five small boxes. He then places all five boxes inside the big box.

Thus no box is empty and all boxes contain odd number of balls.

CRAZY RACE

The positions of girls running the race : Sushila <-- Narmada <-- Ganga <-- Mangala <-- Vidya. Sushila could not continue the race. Therefore Narmada was ahead of all girls.

WHO? WHICH? WHAT?

1. Dr. C.V. Raman, in 1930
2. Nitrous oxide
3. Galvanometer
4. Michael Faraday
5. Tiger
6. Botany

GHOST RIDDLES

1. By wearing boo-ts
2. A surgical spirit
3. A spirit level
4. She didn't know what possessed her
5. The eeriest
6. The ghost guard
7. Tombstones
8. Spook-tacles

A
N
S
W
E
R

P
A
G
E

Summy was exhilarated. The school had closed for summer, and she was more than happy to say goodbye to text books. She had a lot of plans : swimming, tennis, computer classes, visiting friends ...

But all her hopes were dashed to earth when mother said that she had to cancel all her plans.

"But why?" Sumy asked in surprise.

"Because we have to visit your grandparents. It's been a couple of years since we saw them and they are expecting us. I don't want to disappoint them. You better start packing. We leave tomorrow morning!"

Sumy ran to her room almost in tears. She thought her parents were being unreasonable. But there was no point in arguing with them. Reluctantly she started choosing her dresses to be packed.

The sweet chirping of birds and the direct rays of the sun woke Sumy up. She remembered the long trip by jeep that brought her to this hilly place and the small town in which her grandparents lived. She clambered out of her bed and sleepily gazed out of the window. The scenic beauty captured her attention.

"Time for breakfast" - she could hear her grandma's call.

She freshened



up quickly and ran downstairs.

"Good morning Sumy," her grandma greeted her. "My! How you have grown up, since I saw you last time!"

"Where is grandpa?" Sumy asked to avoid further comments on her looks.

"He is in the garden."

"Garden? I was not aware that you had much space around the house for a well laid out garden."

"Not here," Granny smiled. "Go down the road on the opposite side of our

GRANDPA'S GARDEN

The title 'GRANDPA'S GARDEN' is written in large, bold, black capital letters. There are three decorative flowers around the text: a red rose on the right, a purple flower in the middle, and a yellow flower on the left.

house and you will find him there tending his plants."

Sumy finished her breakfast in a hurry, put on a sweater and ran down the road. She came across a plot of land without any house. Only a few trees and plenty of flowering plants. As she walked through the tiny gate, the chirping of birds tickled her ears. She looked up to find birds taking short flights from one branch to another.

"Good morning Sumy! You seem to be fascinated!" Grandpa was walking towards her.

"Yes. It's such a quiet and beautiful place," said Sumy.

"This was just waste land a couple of years ago. People

were dumping garbage and misusing it.

Having retired from service and with nothing else to do, I thought I would create a small garden here. Now the children of the town come

here very often to play and to admire the flowers and birds."

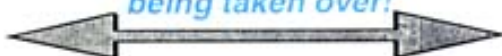
Grandpa told Sumy the names of all the plants and both of them worked in the garden throughout

This is the
first prize winning
story in the
Green Earth contest :

**Only a few trees and plenty of
flowering plants. As she
walked through the tiny gate,
the chirping of birds
tickled her ears.**



The township has decided to widen the road and this will result in our nice little garden being taken over!



the day. Even lunch was brought to them by grandma and they found a shady place to devour it. Later in the evening the children of the town came and Sumy was introduced to them by grandpa. They took her to see other places too in the town and soon she became one of them.

Days passed and it was almost time for Sumy and her parents to say goodbye and return to their own home. Sumy was once again woken up by the sweet chirping of the birds. She knew she had only a couple of days left and did not want to waste any time. She ran down the stairs to meet grandpa at the breakfast table. 'But why is he so glum today?'

"Grandpa! What happened? You have

sadness written all over your face!" cried Sumy.

"Well...", grandpa let out a sigh. "You see Sumy, the township has decided to widen the road and this will result in our nice little garden being taken over! Imagine bull dozers crushing our flower plants and felling the few young trees which are there!" Sumy could see a tear drop in a corner of grandpa's left eye.

She swallowed the grief welling up in her throat. "But... But... how can they trespass into our land?"

Grandpa shook his head slowly. "It's not our land Sumy. It's government land and they have every right to take it over for widening the road. Since it was vacant and being misused I created the garden to lend beauty to this town."

Sumy was dumb struck. Grandpa moved into his room and did not come out the whole day. Grandma naturally looked sad but coaxed Sumy

to have her breakfast. While sipping coffee, suddenly Sumy had an idea.

"See you later granny", she said and ran to meet her friends in town. Soon word spread and all of them gathered near the milk booth. A heated discussion followed and finally they had a plan of action. There was a buzz of activity as the children divided themselves into groups and worked with perfect understanding. The back stairs of Grandpa's house which led to the



terrace became a beehive of activity. Children were moving up and down. Finally it was all over!

Sumy went inside the house and invited her parents and grandma to the terrace. Finally she knocked on the door of grandpa's room.

"Come out grandpa! We have a surprise for you!" She clutched his hand and literally pulled him out to the backyard and coaxed him up the stairs to the terrace.

They were all there! All the flowering plants basking in the evening sun and swaying lightly to the breeze!

"For he's a jolly good fellow..." The children sang in chorus and grandma gave him a warm hug in welcome.

Grandpa couldn't believe his eyes! "How did you manage it?" he asked, with a lump in his throat.

"All of us did it together", said Sumy. "We collected the rich soil from your garden and spread it thickly over polythene sheets in the terrace. Then we carefully shifted all your plants too! We have even collected some money from all parents to buy a water hose and a few flower pots. Now the garden is all yours grandpa! Nobody can take it away from you!"

Tears rolled down grandpa's cheeks and Sumy knew they were tears of happiness.

"Trees are our best friends" said grandpa. "Promise me that each one of



Sumy and her parents to leave and grandpa presented her with a mango sapling.

you will plant one tree in whatever space is available to you and look after it as your mother looks after you!"

"Sure grandpa! We promise!" said the children in unison. "We know the importance of green earth!"

It was time for Sumy and her parents to leave and grandpa presented her with a mango sapling. Sumy was delighted. "I'll take good care of it," she said. "It will always remind me of my wonderful days here." She got into the jeep, clutching the sapling to her.

The jeep roared and gathered speed. "You thought it was going to be a dreadful holiday, didn't you?" asked mother.

"And it turned out to be the best one I ever had!" said Sumy giving mother a bear hug.

P.R. Arun, Age 15, Christ Nagar School, Trivandrum,

ARUN WINS Rs.250/-

GOKULAM **ART** **GALLERY**

ERATHA THOLKAPPIYAN,
Age 13, Army School,
Bangalore - 42.



ARAVINDA DEVARAJ,
*Dear Aravinda, pl. send your
age and school address.*



T.G. SIVAPRIYA
Std. IV, Mamallan Matric
School, Kanchipuram.

ARUN PANIGRAHI,
Std. VIII B, Kendriya
Vidyalaya.I, Uppal, Hyderabad.



TRUE STORY

Scene : A diamond mine in South Africa. The year : 1905. A young labourer was working very hard in the dark depths of the mine. He was in for a big surprise. He had discovered a very large diamond. He was thrilled. So was the mine owner!

The diamond weighing 3106 carats was the largest in the world. It



A DIAMOND FOR THE KING!

was named after the mine owner Cullinan. Nobody thought of the poor labourer who had found the diamond while naming it. That is the way of the world.

Cullinan thought that the big, sparkling diamond was fit enough only for a king. He decided to present it to the British Emperor Edward VII on his 66th birthday.

But how to send it to London safely? The diamond could not be insured since no one could estimate its price. So the priceless diamond was sent heavily guarded through a team of couriers. Word spread and every body in South Africa and England were talking about the amazing diamond.

The diamond reached the King's

palace safely. But what was shocking was that it was put away uncared for in a store room at a corner of the Buckingham Palace!

The previous day the King had received a post parcel. He opened it to stare at the most precious diamond in the world. That was the real 'Cullinan' and it had reached the king safely.

What was dumped in the store room was a fake! Cullinan had cleverly plotted to send the fake through couriers, heavily guarded while he sent the real diamond wrapped as an ordinary post parcel! If at all there was an attempt to rob the diamond only the fake would have been lost!

- Sukhendu Dutta

In any war the commander of the armed forces has to work out a strategy with the help of his majors. In the ancient days kings estimated the strength and position of their enemies and planned their defence or attack. The game chess was born as a natural corollary of these deliberations. It is said that kings used to have real soldiers as pawns in a jumbo chess board and played the game with their

commanders to develop their battle skills. Some say that chess was born or invented in India and spread to other countries in course of time.

If this be true, our Anand becoming the grand master and world champion has a special significance. In the dawn of the 21st century Anand has made his country

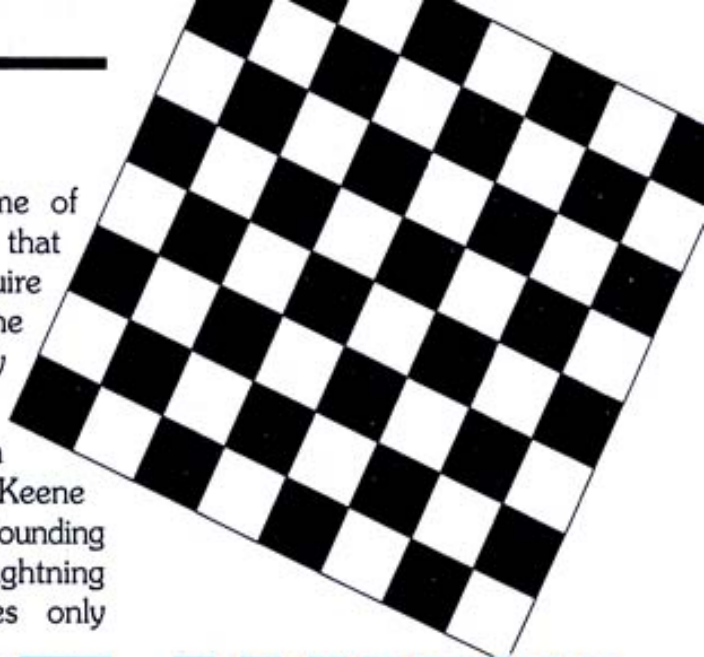
A

• Anand

proud.

Chess is more a game of brains than brawn. Not that other games do not require intelligence. But chess is the exclusive domain of the grey matter.

According to the English grand master Raymond Keene Anand is blessed with an astounding memory and strikes like lightning on the board. He takes only



TRYST WITH DESTINY!

minutes where others take hours to decide on his moves.

Anand learned the game when he was six from his mother Sushila Viswanathan and what a proud mother she should be now.

He joined Chennai's Tal chess club even as a kid where he beat even experienced players with startling speed.

Later he must have worked very hard to learn the intricacies of the game and blossom as a grand master.

Anand is only the second non-

Russian world champion since 1948. The American Bobby Fischer was the first.

Anand's victory combined with Xie Jun's world womens title is a remarkable double victory for Asia.

For all his achievements Anand is very humble. "I was staring at death" he admitted later while talking about his game with Kalifman. At a particular point when Anand was thus cornered, Kalifman made a wrong move and saved Anand.

And that is what you call "A tryst with destiny!"



One day in the year 1827, a youth was crossing the road when a horse carriage came at high speed and was about to knock him down. He escaped at hair's breadth and on returning home started to think about his providential escape. He decided that there must be some way of alerting pedestrians about speeding carriages. He took a small hammer and attached a spring to it. He fitted them inside an iron box and used his foot to press the trigger. A loud clang was heard.

Walter Hunt, for that was the

name of the boy, had invented the first warning bell to be fitted in carriages! The carriage man had his hands full with the reins and so Walter had designed the bell to be rung with his foot! In no time at all it became very popular and many improved versions soon became available.

But this did not improve the fortunes of Walter Hunt. He was in debt. He owed fifteen dollars to a man and he was pressing him to return it. Dejected he was sitting

A WARNING BELL BY WALTER HUNT

INVENTIONS

in his workshop when he spotted a copper wire lying on the table. Suddenly an idea occurred to him and he started twisting and turning the copper wire this way and that. In just three minutes he had invented the safety pin.

He went to a manufacturer and sold the rights of producing the safety pin on a large scale to him, for just 400 dollars. Walter Hunt thus wiped



①



②



③

Here are three shadow pictures. Can you guess where these famous landmarks are situated?

- Answers :**
1. Rio de Janeiro
2. London
3. Kuala Lumpur



out his debt. But the entire world now owes him a debt of gratitude for the safety pin.

Walter hunt is also the father of the fountain pen. Prior to his invention, people

were writing with steel nibs and feathers dipped in ink.

Many people do a lot of research and improve on an invention, but the original inventor is always remembered, and becomes part of the history of mankind. Walter hunt was one such person.

- Bulin V. Balre, age 11,
Meghamala Roy Education
Centre, Calcutta.

Once a young man not finding any work in his home town decided to test his fortunes in a far away city. He had to walk the



distance since he had no money. After a long time he was so tired and

a magical tree" he thought. Let me test this further.

"If only this glass of water turned into orange juice" he mumbled to himself and what a surprise! The glass of water turned at once into nice, cool and fresh orange juice!

"Well, this is enough to quench my thirst. But am I not hungry? If only this magical tree can provide me with a full course dinner..."

The tree did not disappoint him. Jamoons and Samosas, Pulav and Koorma, soft drink and ice cream, pappad and even chocolates appeared before him.

Rakesh had his fill and said, "naturally I would like to rest for sometime in a soft bed." In the

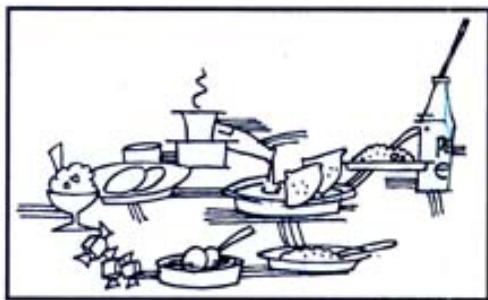
THE MAGICAL

wanted to rest. He could see a tree not far off and dragged him self towards it. "Whew!" he heaved a sigh and thankfully sat under the shade of the tree.

"If only I had a glass of water" he thought and 'presto' it appeared near him. Rakesh - for that was the name of the young traveller - was dumb struck at first. He looked around him in fright but found no one. He looked up. The leaves of the tree shook as if laughing at him. "Oh! this must be

twinkling of an eye a bed appeared complete with spreads and pillows!

He lay down comfortably and thought, "how my legs ache after the long walk! If only I had servants to





massage my legs!"

Immediately two persons appeared

TREE

and started massaging his legs to relieve the pain.

Now Rakesh was feeling drowsy. And in that moment a funny thought occurred to him. "Well if the tree can provide so many comforts, perhaps it can also produce the devil" he mumbled. To his utter horror he heard a terrible sound and startled, sat upright to see the most ugly devil there could be!

The devil neared Rakesh slowly,

no doubt with the intention of swallowing him up.

Fortunately for Rakesh he had the presence of mind to call for an angel to help him. "Help! help!" he cried, "will an angel please come and save me?"

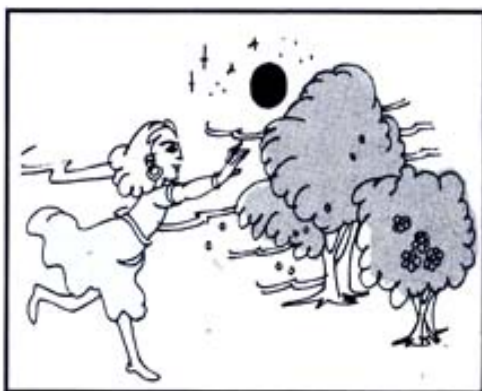
And that is exactly what happened. An angel appeared and with a magic twist of her hand turned the devil into a tree!

The angel smiled at Rakesh and seemed to say, "now you know the power of positive thinking." She then disappeared.

"That is enough experience for a day" thought Rakesh and continued his journey towards the city, where he put into practice what the angel had taught him and prospered.

As for the magical tree, it is still there. But we don't need its help to teach us anything since we have already read about it!

- S. Deepak, Std. X, Shri Mahalingeshwara EMS, Iddya, Surathkal.



☑ Gokulam, I love the most. Every month I eagerly wait for it. I like to read comics and 'budding chef.' Please include more comics.

Sumitha, S. Naidu, Std. VA, St. Joseph's H.S.S., Hosur.

☑ I have been reading Gokulam for the past ten years and I treasure each and every copy! Use your noodle is very useful to us. Please publish Undir Story in every issue.

My friends and I have started a club in the name of Gokulam. To start, with we have decided to boycott artificial drinks and polythene bags. This will help us to maintain good health and a good environment. Gokulam readers in other areas are also requested to form such clubs with a social out look.

Lavanya, Trichy.

I LOVE GOKULAM!

☑ Gokulam is my favourite magazine. Appu and kuku and Balu the Bully are very interesting characters. Please publish more games and comics.

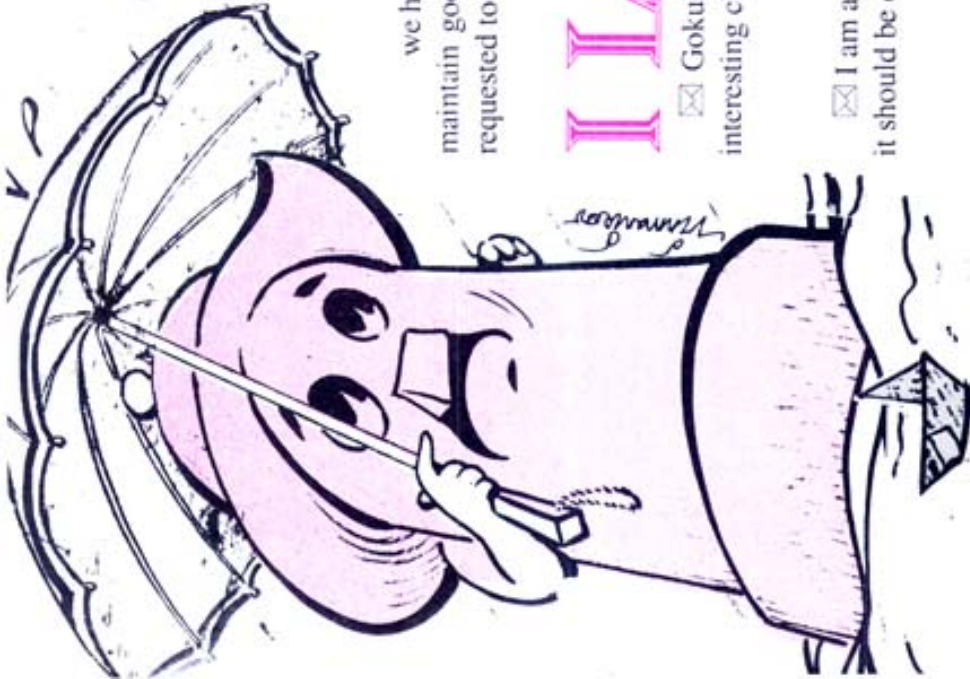
Arun Panigrahi, VIII B, K.V. No.1 Uppal, Hyderabad - 39.

☑ I am a regular reader of Gokulam. I have learnt many things from it. My wish is that it should be converted into a weekly.

N.C. Gayathri, Std. IX, Nirmala Rani, Bangalore.

☑ I never miss even a single Gokulam. You can start a special feature on places of historical interest giving details of the kings, the temples they built etc.

B. Geetha, IX C, Sudharshan Vidya Mandir, Bangalore.



SIMPLE SANGPO AND WISE RIMPO

Retold Story :
A.R. ARCHANA,
VII Std. St. Joseph
School, Bellary.

Illustration :
MAHESH

in fact, a merchant named
Gartong was worried about
his son.

Sangpo!
You are a
simpleton. People
deceive you.

I am sorry
father?

You need
experience. Go
somewhere with
hundred sheep
and do business.

Gartong warned Sangpo...

You must
not kill the sheep or
sell them. Bring
them all back, but
with a sack of barley
loaded on
each one of them!

Next day... Sangpo was in
another town.

I am so tired
and hungry.
Father did not
give me any
money. How am I
to buy barley?

A nice girl Rimpo passed that way...

Why are you so sad?
I live near by. Can I
help you?

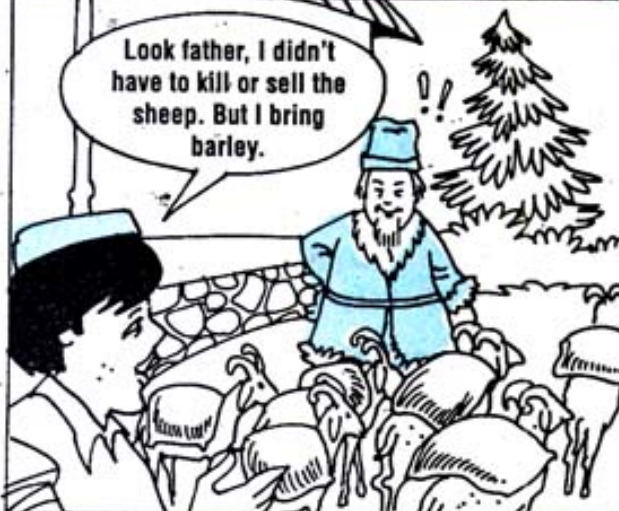
Sangpo told her about his father and his commands

Don't worry. Cut the furs of the sheep and sell them to buy barley.



Sangpo did as he was told.

Look father, I didn't have to kill or sell the sheep. But I bring barley.



Gartong was pleased but wanted to test his son further.

Go with the same herd of sheep and come back again with a load of barley on each one of them.



Sangpo reached the same town with his sheep and sat dejected at the same place.

You... again..?



Sangpo told her about his father's command.

Don't worry. Cut off all the horns of the sheep and sell them to make handles for knives!



Sangpo took her advice and...

Look father! I bring barley and I did not kill or sell the sheep!



Gartong was happy but suspicious.

How did you suddenly become intelligent? Did some one help you?

Sangpo told his father about Rimpo.

I will go and talk to her and her parents.

Gartong met Rimpo.

If a girl like you marries my son all my problems will be over. My wealth will be yours.

Rimpo agreed for she had a liking for simple Sangpo.

My son, your hard work and her intelligence will double my wealth soon!



The boys met Rathin Banerjee in his office.

"What's up boys?" asked the forest ranger, surprised to see all the four in his room.

"Er.." Amit began hesitantly. "We have something to tell you, uncle!"

"Out with it!" said he with a smile.

The boys informed him about their suspicions, and suggested searching the

bundles of wood carried by women at the exit gate. They did not notice Ramesh the forest guard enter the room listening to them.

Banerjee laughed and shook his head. "How can we do that? They are such poor innocent people!"

Ramesh immediately echoed his sentiments. "They keep their home fires burning by collecting dry and dead

wood from the forest. Why, they have been doing it for generations!"

The boys looked at Ramesh suspiciously. 'Why was he objecting to the search?'



to resist the temptation of bribes offered by poachers. The suspicious behaviour of Ramesh seemed to confirm this.

"Well, well" said Rathin Banerjee finally. "No harm in consulting the police and bringing them into the picture." He took the walkie talkie for wireless contact with the police.

Amit shot a glance at Ramesh and found that he was visibly upset.

A few policemen were stationed at the exit gate of the sanctuary next evening. They were keeping watch over four different paths which converged near the gate.

The boys were waiting in a jeep

Mystery of the **Missing IVORY**

"What's the harm uncle?" asked Amit. "Just submit the proposal to the police and leave it to them to take a decision."

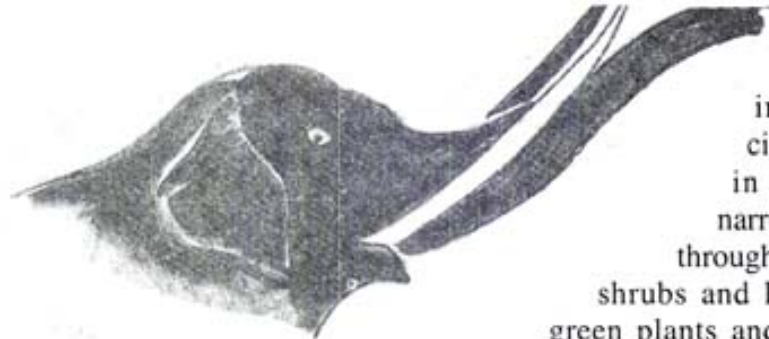
"Elephant tusks are too long and heavy and cannot be hidden in their bundles" argued Ramesh.

The boys had heard that forest guards were ill-paid and were unable

outside the gate not very far from it. Naturally they were excited and felt rather important now that the police had accepted their proposal.

Soon, half a dozen women, all of them middle aged arrived at the gate with head loads of dry wood.

"Stop! we have to search your bundles" said a policeman.



"What! cried a woman as though astonished. We have never been insulted like this before! Collecting dead wood for our homes from the forest, has gone on for generations and it is our established right!"

"Dead wood?" frowned a policeman. "Why, these appear green and freshly cut!" He pointed to the faggot having sticks with clean cut ends, that dead wood would never have. This embarrassed the women.

The search began. All the faggots were down loaded and knots untied. Patently green, cut wood and sharply cut poles were found in the bundles along with dead wood. But this was not what they were looking for. They were about to give up when they noticed a sharp and handy axe hidden in the bundle of wood. Every woman had an axe hidden in her faggot!

"Why do you need axes to collect dead wood?" asked a policeman.

"We have to protect ourselves from wild animals sahib" came the reply in chorus. "The forest is full of them and danger lurks in every corner!"

And with that smart reply the search ended!

The next morning the boys decided to take a walk in the forest. The narrow path led them through green grass and shrubs and later on through green plants and trees. It was a warm, beautiful morning and the boys walked tirelessly until they reached a lovely crystal clear stream running between an avenue of trees. They could see the shiny pebbles at the bottom of the stream. Silvery fish flicked hither and thither and played in the water. A king fisher was perched on the branch of a tree waiting for the proper time to take a dive. Only a few twittering birds disturbed the peace of the area.

The boys watched the silver fish sparkling in the sun's rays for some time and then continued their leisure walk. They were fascinated by the shadow patterns made by the branches of the trees swaying in the wind.

Suddenly they heard a rough and commanding voice arising from behind a big tree. "What are you doing here boys?"

Startled, they turned their heads in the direction of the tree to find two forest guards coming out from behind the tree and walking towards them. They were Badal and Ramesh!

"We were just taking a walk" said Amit politely.

"Walk... Eh... We don't like you boys wandering about in the forest like this!" said Ramesh rather curtly.

Why were the forest guards so angry with them?

(To be continued)

Sukhendu Dutta, Calcutta

In this month's column, I will try and answer two questions which are frequently asked by readers regarding "speaking".

How do you begin an informal conversation in English stylishly? (R. Preethi, VIII Std, Chennai)

I will answer this question by asking you a question. Why do you want to begin a conversation "stylishly", as you put it? Do you attempt to begin a conversation "stylishly" when you are speaking to someone in your mother tongue? Do you even think about style when you are speaking to someone in Tamil, Malayalam, or Hindi? Probably not. For some reason most people begin to worry about "style" and "sounding good" only when they use English. Have you ever commented on your friend's "stylish" Tamil or Hindi? No? Why is that? Let's think about this for a minute. Why do we use language? We use it to communicate - to get across a message to someone, right? As long as you get your message across, why worry about whether you have got it across "stylishly" or not? When you use a language, whether it is Kannada, Telugu, Marathi, English, etc., focus on

QUESTIONS REGARDING SPEAKING

USE YOUR NOODLE - 10

SPEAK
STYLISH
ENGLISH?

NO,
SPEAK
GOOD
ENGLISH!



19/2/08

the meaning. Do not worry whether what you are saying "sounds good" or not. Just look at our politicians. When we hear them speak, they sound very impressive, but do we understand what they are saying? In most cases, we don't. When we listen to something that we don't understand, what is that we do after some time? We switch off. We stop listening. Is that what you want your listener to do when you are talking? If I were you, I wouldn't worry too much

**Address your questions to Sri
Upendran, C/o Editor, Gokulam,
47, J.N. Road, Chennai - 97**

about sounding "stylish". Instead focus on whether what you are saying makes sense.

Having said all that, let me give you a few expressions that you can use to begin a conversation in informal situations. I don't know if these are what you would call "stylish", but native speakers of English use them very often. These are all expressions that you would normally use with people that you know fairly well. If I were you, I wouldn't go around using any of these expressions with my teachers or someone much older than I am.

How is it going?

Hi, how are you doing?

Hey, what's up?

What have you been up to?

What's new?

When you run into someone whom you haven't seen in a long time, you could say:

I haven't seen you in years.

Long time, no see.

I haven't seen you in an age.

I haven't seen you in a month of Sundays.

When I talk to someone in English, I begin to stammer. How can I overcome this problem? (D. Johnson Parthiban, IX Std, Chennai)

Do you stammer, or are you unable to find the words that you are looking for? If it is the latter, then let me assure you that it happens to all of us at some time or the other. Especially when we speak in English. Even people whose mother tongue is English have this problem - they are often unable to say what they want to say; this is because they



are unable to find the words that they are looking for. So, if you are at a loss for words when you speak in English, do not worry about it too much. This is a stage that all learners go through.

In order to overcome this problem, you need to use English as much as you can. Use it in school with your friends and teachers. Use it wherever you think it is "natural". If you can't find anyone to talk to, then make use of your cassette player. Record yourself every day and see how you sound. I

have talked about this in an earlier column, so I won't go into the details. But let

me say something at this point. Don't overdo the use of English. It is true that English is important.

In order to get a job these days, you do need English. But this doesn't mean that English should be the only language



that you focus on; you should not avoid using other languages. You should as far as possible, use your mother tongue at home. These days many school-

Do not ignore your mother tongue. English is important, but so are our languages, especially the mother tongue.

going children speak to their parents in English. Try and avoid this. Try and be as good in your mother tongue as you are in English. Remember, the mother tongue is very important. You may not believe this now, but years later you will realise it. So let me repeat it again. Do not ignore your mother tongue. English is important, but so are our languages, especially the mother tongue.

S. Upendran



The story line is very simple.

A chicken farm and an owner who is very cruel. Tweedy the owner, not content with the profits, plans to make pies out of the chicken.

The chicken come to know of this and plan to escape but fail in their repeated at-

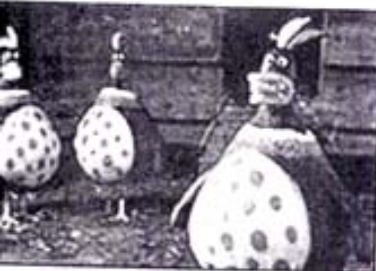
The message is clear. Don't give up. Fight till the very end to succeed.

"Chicken Run" an animated movie became a roaring success. Kids flocked to see it; adults accompanying them loved it. Though it



KID'S MOVIE; ADULTS LOVE IT!

tempts. Enter, Rocky Rhodes the hero who charms the chicken with swashbuckling manners. But



they soon learn that he is not a super chicken. Only the persistent efforts of Ginger finally frees them from captivity. Ginger steals the heart of Rocky as well as the viewers of the movie!



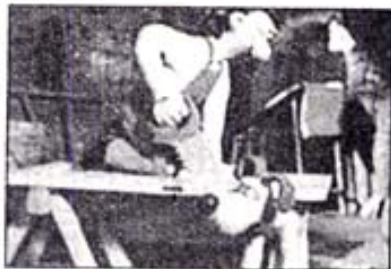
has had it's first run and is not being screened now, it is still being talked about, because computer graphics and three dimensional effects coupled to give a very realistic picture. The viewer felt that he was one among the chicken, experiencing all their joys and sorrows.

The voices were real. Great actors like Mel Gibson and Julia Sawatha gave their voices to Rocky and Ginger and this gave a



sense of identification to the cinema buff.

Once upon a time, long ago, Walt Disney made the first cartoon movie and it took him and his crew a long long time to complete a movie. For every single action several pictures had to be drawn and coloured and an army of artists worked on the project. But now with Computer Graphics production of cartoon films has been made



by a character.

Animated films are somewhat different. They



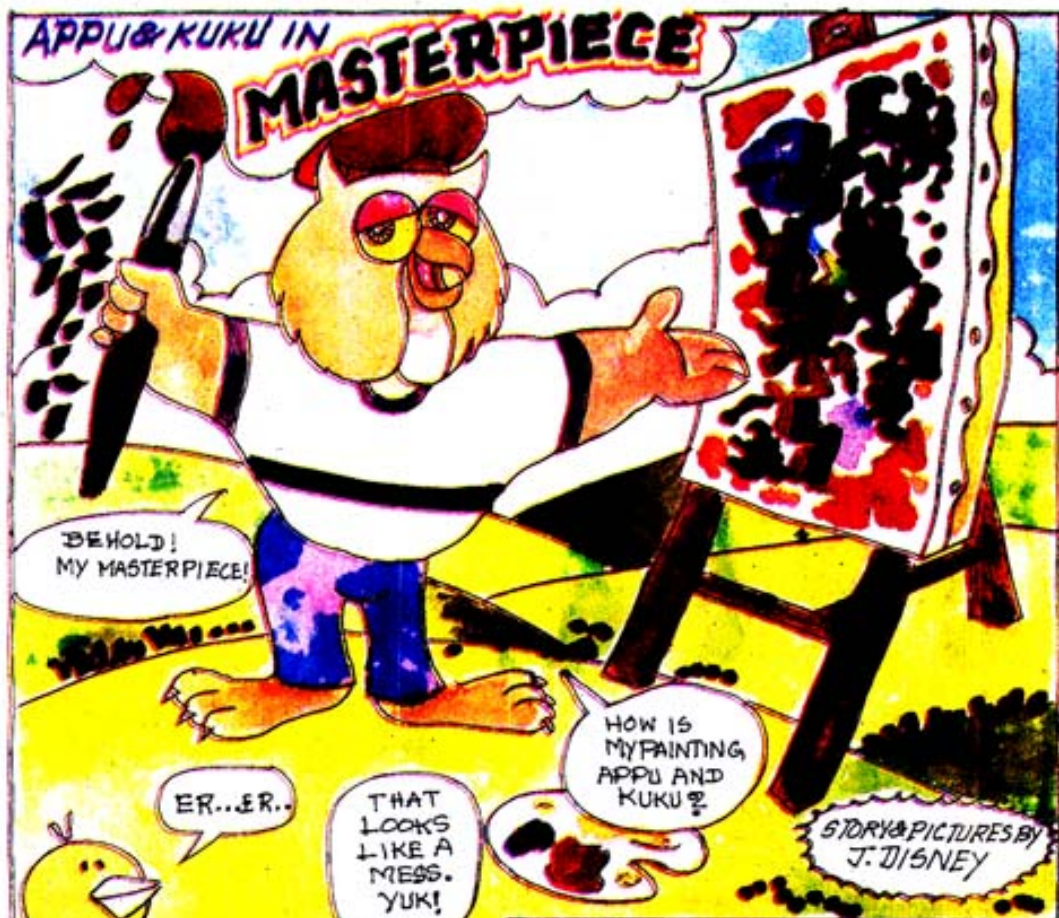
quite easy. Once the computer is properly programmed it turns out any number of pictures required for each and every action

appear as though dolls are taking over instead of paintings and pictures. The Toy Story, again by the Disney studios, was a pioneering effort in this direction. A three dimensional effect was possible, ofcourse with the help of computer graphics.

Many animated movies followed and Chicken Run is a recent addition and it hit the bull's eye, as well as our coverpage.



APPU & KUKU IN MASTERPIECE



STORY & PICTURES BY
J. DISNEY







I am in seventh standard. Whenever I plan to do something, some other matter attracts my attention

and I forget or postpone what I planned to do. This results in waste of time. What am I to do? Please help.

G.A. Vishal, Secunderabad

Dear Vishal,

You are not lazy. That is a plus point. A brisk boy like you should also develop regularity and control of the mind. Then you will achieve many things. Before going to bed every day draw up a time table for the next day. Allot some time in it for leisure and entertainment also, in addition to the things which you must do. Then stick to the time table. In a few weeks time you will find that your attention is no longer diverted to unnecessary matters.

★★★

I am studying in seventh standard. Recently we shifted our residence to a new locality. I don't have friends here and I feel bored. I tried to make friends but failed in the attempt. Please guide me.

A. Rajasekar, Chennai

Dear Rajasekar,

It is nice to know that you have a friendly nature. The best way to make friends is to smile and greet them. Say "good morning" or "good day" with a hearty smile. Extend your hand for a hand shake and the person opposite will find it difficult not to respond. Then start talking simple things like, "nice day isn't it?", "what's your name? I'm Rajasekar" etc. One thing will lead to another and soon you will be chatting. But to retain a friendship you should be sincere and helpful. Try to



share your Gokulam or story book but insist on their being returned to you.

HOW TO

Never compromise to retain a friendship. Friendship should be based on mutual trust, honesty and higher values of life.

★★★

I rank fifth in my class. There was a scholarship exam and our class teacher chose some students to write the exam, including the first ranker and me. But when it came to a model



making contest our class teacher chose several students including the first ranker and excluded me. I feel she is partial and is particularly fond of the first ranker. It is upsetting me. I am studying in sixth standard.

Ashvin V. Panvel, Navi Mumbai

Dear Ashvin,

The very fact that your teacher selected you for writing the scholarship exam proves that she thinks highly of you. If she did not select you for model making contest, it means that she is not sure of your ability in that area. While you must know your strong points you should also be aware of your short comings. Then you will not feel disappointed. Go to your class teacher and ask her very politely why you were not selected. I am sure her reply will convince you, that she is impartial.

★★★

I am studying in fifth standard. One day when lunch boxes were being packed for me and my brother our grandmother noticed that two oranges were available and for the sake of our

WIN FRIENDS?

convenience she peeled them before placing them in our lunch boxes. But



while my brother got a whole round peeled orange which was so beautiful, my orange was broken up into individual pieces and looked ugly. I burst into tears. My mother wanted me to say 'sorry' and I felt all the more bad. Please advise.

Abhinaya Hari, Chennai - 53

Dear Abhinaya,

I don't think your grandma did this on purpose. She would have thought she was making it easier for you. After all an orange has to be split into individual parts before eating and the

taste is the same for both the oranges. You can always ask your mother or grandmother to give you a peeled orange as a whole next time. If you remember that there is always a next time you won't feel disappointed about small things in life.

Love,
Grandma Worm

Just a Minute!

Hil It's Kumbh Mela in the north and Pongal in the south. Prior to that all of us have welcomed the 21st century on January 1.

Its a good beginning and now its time

COMING SOON : ELECTIONS AND EXAMS!



for studies and to get ready for the 'annuals'.

Elections to several states are also around the corner and in the days to come we can expect our leaders to do a lot of jugglery in alliances and to issue a fantastic amount of contradictory and

funny statements. But we have no time for such frivolous matters.

Your entire efforts have to be directed towards studies till the exams are over. Ofcourse you can spare a few minutes for Gokulam between revisions, for a change and relaxation of the mind!

The most important aspect of studies is to understand the subject or the problem and it's solution.

Govinda approached his father and

asked him a doubt in his science lesson. "Well" said his dad, "If you can't remember what was taught to you by your teacher forty days back, how do you expect me to remember what I read forty years back!"

Some people can't just accept that they are unable to understand the subject. Many students just mug up their lessons. This results in forgetting at the crucial time, owing to nervousness. Instead, if one understands the subject he will never forget it.

So, if you have a problem in understanding, don't hesitate to approach your elder brother, sister or teacher. Your polite manners will be definitely rewarded.

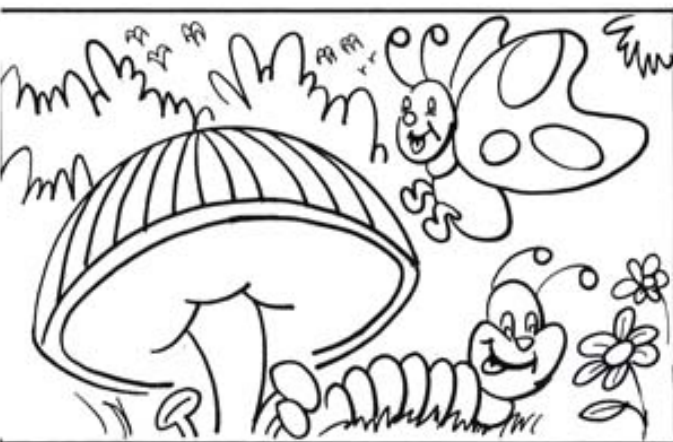
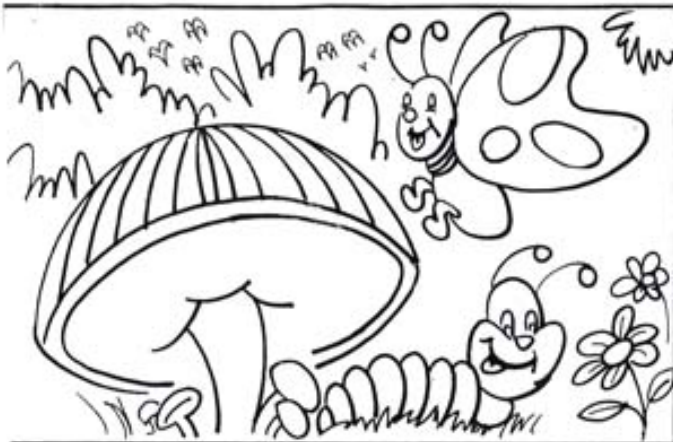
- Editor

Edited, printed and published by K. Rajendran at Bharathan Press on behalf of Bharathan Publications Private Limited. Address : 47, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Ekkaduthangal, Chennai - 600 097.

Telephones : Editorial : 2345624; Circulation Manager, Subscription and Advertisement : 2345623; Chief Administrative Officer : 2345622; Fax: 2345621

Subscription : (Inland) Annual Rs. 72/-; Half Yearly Rs. 36/-

Overseas (Air Mail) Annual Rs. 400/-; Half Yearly Rs. 200/-

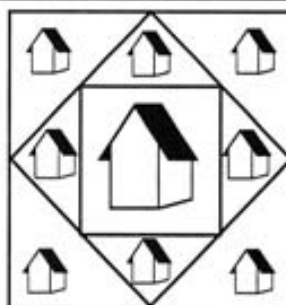
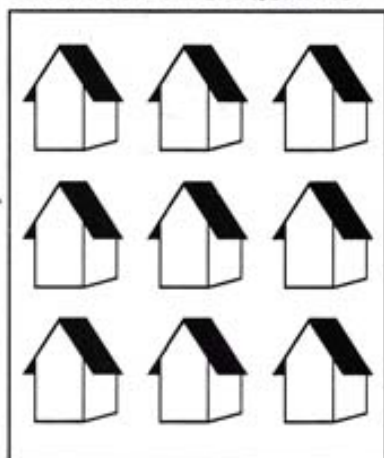


SPOT THE SEVEN DIFFERENCES

Ans : 1. Small Mushroom 2. Big Mushroom 3. Bird 4. Butterfly
Neck 5. Flower Leaf 6. Worm Segments.

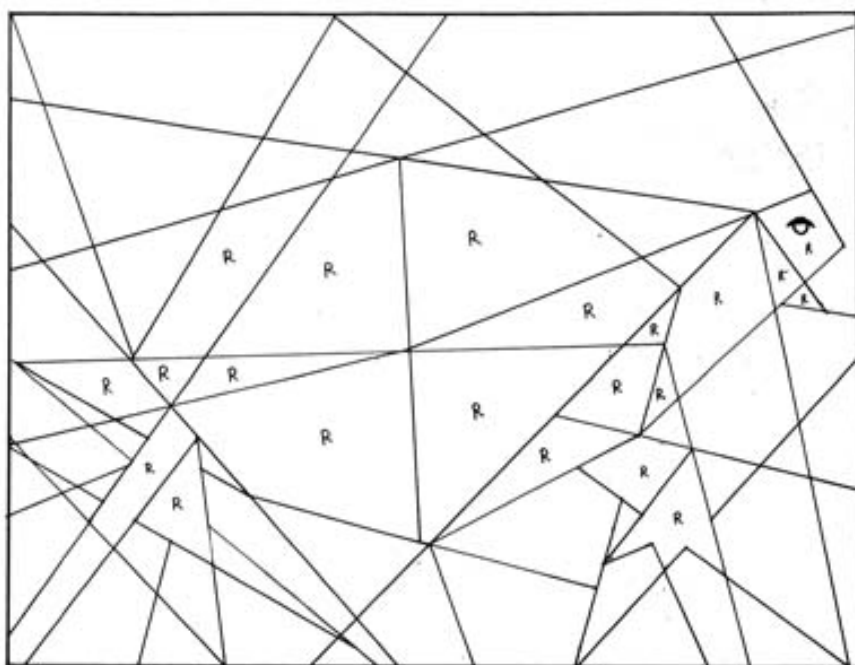
FENCE THEM IN

WITH JUST TWO SQUARES



Ans :

**COLOUR IN THE 'R'
SPACES AND FIND THE
ANIMAL.**



WAVES & WAVES OF FUN...!

Get Ready to be
 Swept Off Your Feet
 Athisayam Theme Park,
 The Only One Of Its Kind
 In This Part Of Its Part of
 The Region, Promises
 You non-Stop Fun
 Just Like The Waves.



Food from Outside
are not allowed

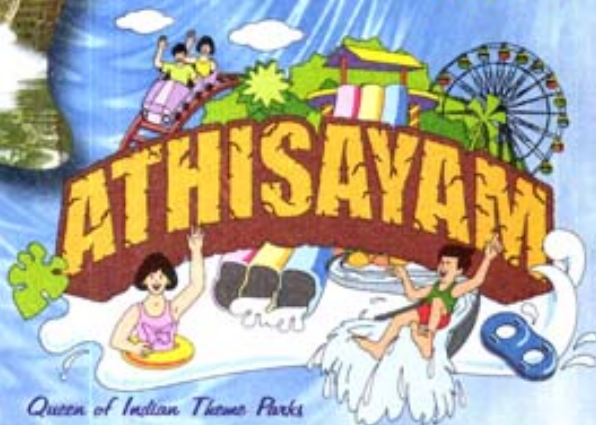


Entrance Ticket

Adult - Rs. 200/-
 Child - Rs. 150/-

Park Timing

10.00am to 6.30pm



Madurai-Dindigul Road, Paravai, Madurai. Ph : 863848-51(4 LINES)

MORE WATER... MORE FUN...